

My DNA Match with Randy Pearson – It wasn't what I expected to find

By Burks Oakley II
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I am searching for additional descendants of Miles Oakley III (1612-1672) and his wife Mary Browne (1607-1682) with whom I have DNA matches. The **Oakley-Browne** couple were my 8th-great grandparents.

This narrative starts out like many of the ones I have written in the past month. I first looked at my DNA match with Kathy Hill Orr on Ancestry.com, since I know that she is descended from the **Oakley-Browne** couple. Then I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. One of these shared matches was Randy Pearson:

 Randy Pearson	Your: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 25 cM Paternal side	KathyOrr60's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 25 cM
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Kathy and I both have 25 cM DNA matches with Randy.



You and Randy Pearson

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

< 1% shared DNA: 25 cM across 1 segments

I was hopeful that I could find Randy’s ancestral line back to the **Oakley-Browne** couple.

I looked at my DNA match with Randy and then I looked at our “Shared DNA Matches”. Oh my! I wasn’t expecting this at all!

 Hal Oakley	Your: 1st cousin 1x removed 418 cM Paternal side	Randy Pearson's: Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin 26 cM
 J.M. Managed by Richard and Brenda Gumbert	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 58 cM Paternal side	Randy Pearson's: 3rd cousin or half 2nd cousin 1x removed 65 cM
 Nancy Crandell	Your: Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed 54 cM Paternal side	Randy Pearson's: 4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed 27 cM

One of our “Shared DNA Matches” was my cousin Hal Oakley, and I know for sure that he doesn’t have the ***Oakley-Browne*** DNA segment on Chromosome 15.

I continued to look at my “Shared DNA Matches” with Randy. One of them was Ray Todd:



Ray Todd



Your:

Half 3rd cousin 2x removed

40 cM

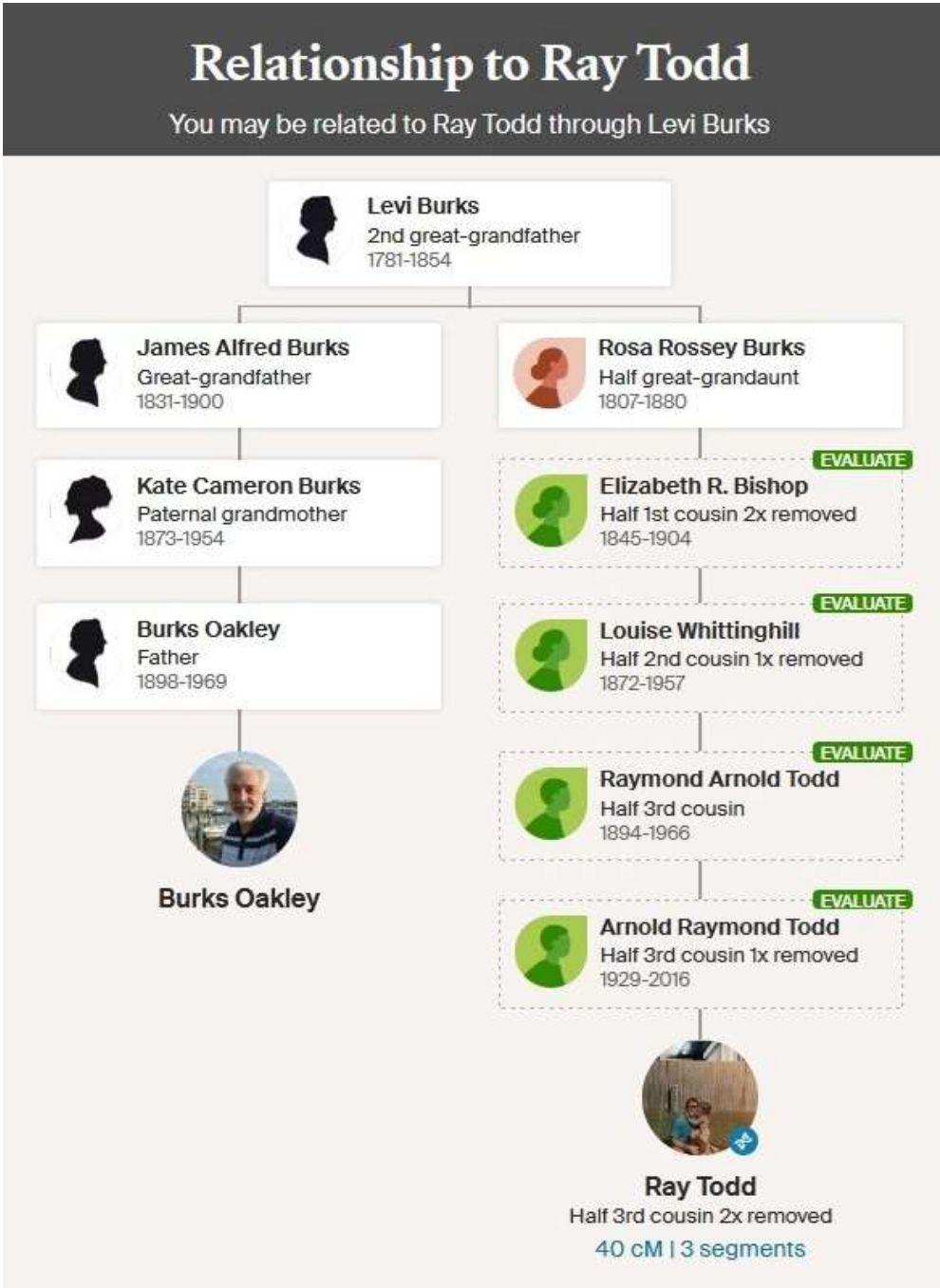
Paternal side

Randy Pearson's:

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

29 cM

The little icon next to his name indicates that the ThruLines® software on Ancestry.com was able to find an ancestor that Ray and I have in common. Here is a chart that this software created:



Oh my! Ray is descended from my second-great grandfather Levi Burks (1781-1854) through Rosa Rossey Burks (1807-1880), who was one of Levi’s daughters from his first marriage. I am descended from Levi Burks through James Alfred Burks (1831-1900), who was Levi’s son from his second marriage. Note that I am in the same generation as Ray’s paternal grandfather, Raymond Arnold Todd – and he was born in 1894!!

Randy Pearson must be related to me on the **Burks** side of my family – even though he has a DNA match with Kathy Hill Orr. Actually, I was expecting to find something like this at some point.

- I only have the one single DNA match with Kathy (the **Oakley-Browne** segment on Chromosome 15).
- I have a DNA match with Randy Pearson because we have a common relative on the **Burks** side of my family.
- Kathy and Randy have a DNA match because they have a common relative sometime in the last seven or so generations.
- Because of these DNA matches, Ancestry.com reported that Kathy and I have a “Shared DNA Match” with Randy. In no way does this mean it is the same segment of DNA!!!!

Randy Pearson’s DNA match with Ray Todd was not a fluke. I continued to look at my DNA match with Randy. Here is another one of our “Shared DNA Matches”:



RoseAnnRhodes

s



Your:

Half 3rd cousin 1x removed or 4th cousin

20 cM

Paternal side

Randy Pearson's:

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

24 cM

This match is with RoseAnnRhodes. I have a 20 cM match with Rose Ann, and Randy has a 24 cM match with Rose Ann.

Here is a chart created by the ThruLines® software, showing how Rose Ann and I are likely related:



Rose Ann and I both are descended from William Burks (1740-1830) and his wife Eliza Cade (1745-1789). This couple were the parents of my second-great grandfather, Levi Burks

Continuing on with my “Shared DNA Matches” with Randy Pearson, another one of them is a woman with the username *rebeccajsster* – I’ll refer to her as Rebecca:

rebeccajsster



Your;

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

22 cM

Paternal side

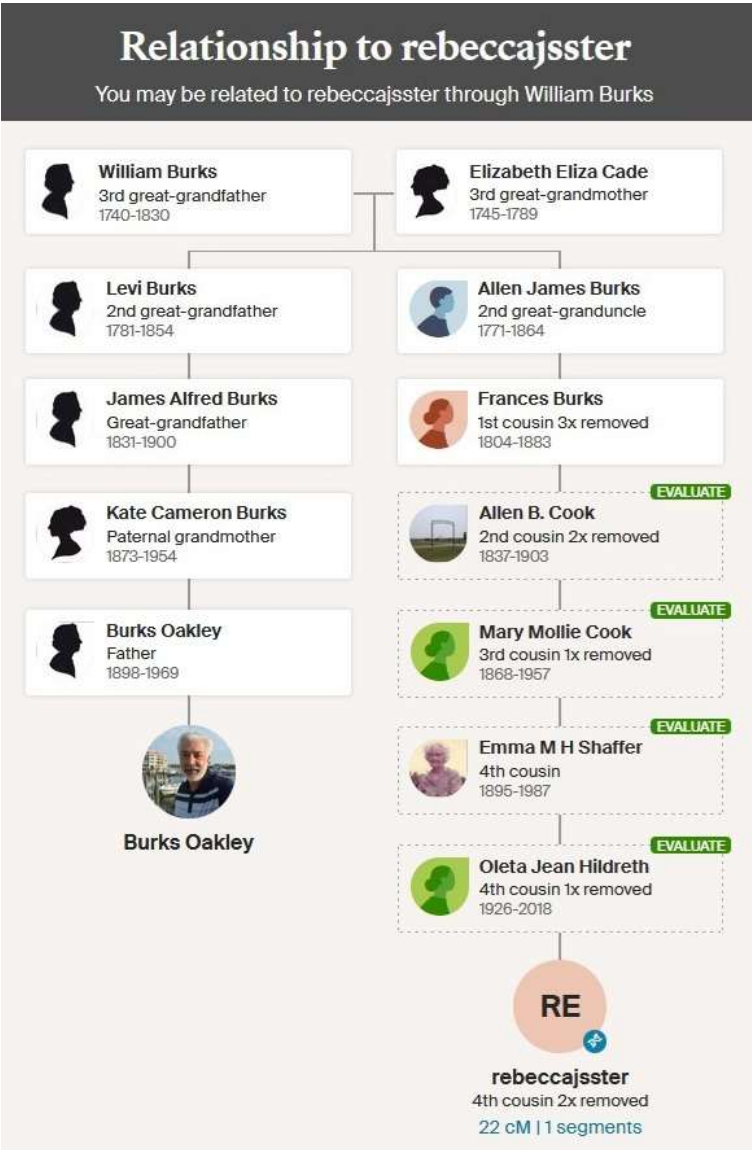
Randy Pearson's;

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

20 cM

I have a 22 cM match with Rebecca, while Randy has a 20 cM match with Rebecca.

Here is a chart from the ThruLines® software, suggesting how Rebecca and I are most likely to be related:



Note that both Rose Ann and Rebecca are descended from the **Burks-Cade** couple through their son Allen James Burks (1771-1864) and Allen’s daughter Frances Burks (1804-1883). I guessed that Rose Ann and Rebecca would have a DNA match with each other – and indeed, they do:

 **rebeccajsster**



Your:

4th cousin or half 3rd cousin 1x removed

22 cM

Paternal side

RoseAnnRhodes's:

Half 3rd cousin or 3rd cousin 1x removed

41 cM

Summary: Kathy Hill Orr and I have a “Shared DNA Match” with Randy Pearson. Unlike all the other shared matches I have with Kathy, our match with Randy does not go back to an **Oakley** ancestor in Colonial times in Westchester County, New York. Instead, Randy is related to me on the **Burks** side of my family.

In looking at my DNA match with Randy Pearson, I found three of our “Shared DNA Matches” (Ray Todd, Rose Ann Rhodes, and **rebeccajsster**) where I know exactly how we are related via the **Burks** family. So I am convinced that Randy is indeed related to me on that side of my family.

Of course, Kathy could be related to Randy in any number of ways – it wouldn’t have to be through the **Burks** family. Their DNA match could come from any of their common ancestors in the last ~7 or 8 generations.

The bottom line is that I knew that if I looked at enough of my “Shared DNA Matches” with Kathy Hill Orr, I would eventually find one who was not an ***Oakley-Browne*** descendant.