

The Gualco Family

Giambatista Gualco was born on July 29, 1899, to Pietro Tomaso and Theresa Reale Gualco in Giovi, Italy. Giovi is a frazione (fraction) of the commune (municipality) of Mignanego, in the Italian region of Liguria, whose largest city is Genoa. Giovi is located on the main highway from Genoa to Milan about ten miles north of Genoa. One of his brothers, Emanuele (Gene) Gualco came to the United States in 1920. Giambatista served in the Army in WW 1, was sent to Africa, but contracted malaria and was sent home. Giambatista Gualco, shown as Gio Batta on the ship's manifest, arrived in the United States at Ellis Island on December 31, 1921, on the ship Dante Alighieri, three and a half months after his brother Emanuele. He settled in the Bay Area and eventually went to work on an Italian cooperative farm in what is today Fremont, Calif. Gio Bacci saved his money and bought a share in the cooperative. He eventually bought a small ranch on Fair Ranch Road in Alvarado and there he built a house and a large barn. He married Rose Armanini who was born in the frazione of Varni, in the commune di Gorreto, Liguria near Genoa in Italy.



The House on Fair Ranch Road



Arial View of Ranch



Family working the farm around 1922.

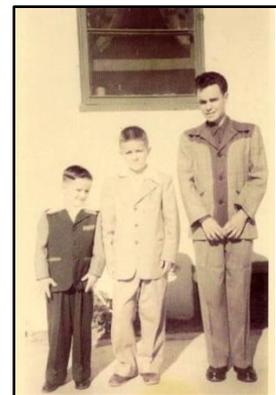
Gio Batta and Rosie Gualco had three children. Thomas was the oldest and was born November 2, 1933. Giambatista (John) was born on October 10, 1936, and Anthony was born on December 29, 1941. The three children all grew up in Alvarado and attended the Alvarado Grammar School in Alvarado, and the Washington Union High School in Centerville (Fremont today).



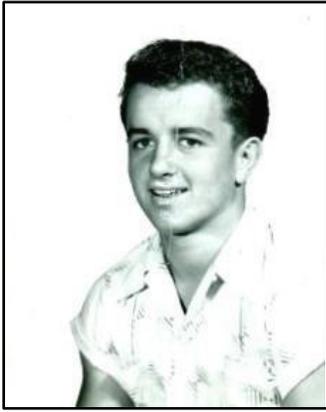
Gio Batta & Rose Gualco



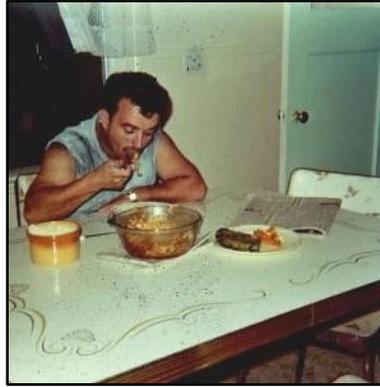
John, Anthony, and Tom



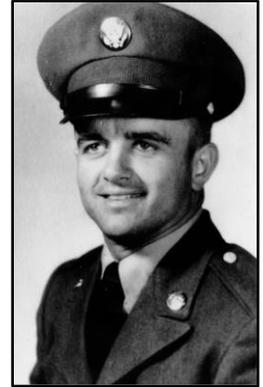
Anthony, John, and Tom



Young John Gualco



Health John Gualco



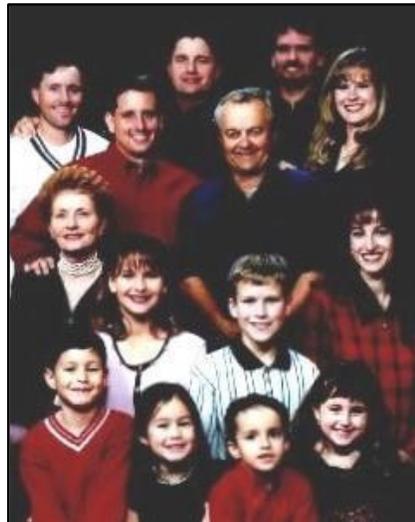
Soldier John Gualco

First picture is John Gualco's high school photo from Washington Union High School. The second photo is a shot of John eating in the kitchen circa the mid-1960's after finishing a shift at the Oakland Scavenger Co. The third photo is of John in his U.S. Army uniform when he went in active service in 1958.

John Gualco married Mary McCoy on September 4, 1960 in Reno, Nevada



Here is an early family photo of John with Dean (left) and Danny (right) standing. Sitting are Darryl, Mary, John, and daughter Lisa.



The photo on the right is the John Gualco family showing three generations. The top row are John's sons Dean and Danny, with Roger and Lisa. Lisa is Mary and John's daughter. Darryl, John's third son is to the right of John on the fourth row. John's wife Mary is on the left of the third row with Grace, Danny's wife on right. Sitting just below Mary is Dean's wife Julie.

John and Mary now live in Tracy California with their family enjoying their Grandchildren and being active in with Branch 390 of the Italian Catholic Federation here in Tracy.