

Key takeaways

- Mary's DNA test results revealed that she had an unknown grandfather.
- Despite the mysteries of an unknown grandfather, we were able to use three of her closest DNA matches to determine who he was.
- This required significant research, tracing their closest common ancestors' descendants to present day people who had once lived in the Oakland, California area.
- We discovered an anomaly which could have added much confusion to the search. Family records ruled him out as a potential relative; he was not from Scotland and was of Native American heritage.
- A double connection through both the Ross and Dobbie families explained why the DNA amounts of two matches exceeded expected ranges for half relationships.
- This case demonstrates that systematic documentation, thorough research of all matches, and verification of database information are essential when identifying unknown relatives.