

New Research on George Eller, Jr.'s Family

EFA member Donn Koenig has been doing extensive research on the genealogy of the George Eller, Junior line. Donn has completed work five of George's nine children and plans to continue to the remaining four. The five completed research materials, totaling more than 1,600 people, are posted on the Eller Family Association website (see links to his research below).

George Eller, Jr. (1777-1851) is the son of Rev. George Eller (1754-1808) and his wife Christiana Sanger Yost (1755-1844), Rev George Eller was the son of immigrant Christian Eller/Ohler (1724-1804).

[John Eller Research](#) | [Wilkerson Eller Research](#) | [Harrison Eller Research](#)
[George Washington Eller Research](#) | [Betsy Eller Research](#)

Donn began this research during Covid when he had free time. He says he was pleasantly surprised that [Ancestry.com](#) had much more primary data than when he previously had researched these lines. We should note that *Ancestry.com* requires a paid membership.

George Jr. and his wife Polly raised their family in Kentucky and some in the first generation moved on to Texas. These two states, Donn says, are great for following family lines using state and county records that can go through about 2000.

In later generations, other lines moved out of Kentucky, mainly to the factory towns and farms of Ohio, Indiana and Illinois. Once there, Donn observes, they were much harder to follow.

A good resource, he suggests, is the [Find-a-Grave](#) website (free to use) that often includes pictures and obituaries, and which can have information on children and grandchildren of the deceased as well as parents and siblings.

In his research, Donn addresses the question of whether George Junior's daughters Betsy and Susan are the same person. His conclusion: they are not.

There is a Betsy who marries

He says he cannot find the name Susan Elizabeth anywhere in primary records and believe it is a name made by researchers from two different people, Betsy Eller and Susan Osborn.

Betsy is the first wife of Jonathon Gadberry, born ca 1812, and had 3 children with him and then died in the late 1830s. She is found once later as E. Gadberry in the death record of her oldest daughter Malvina (married Tarter).

Susan Osborn is Jonathon's second wife, born ca 1820-24 from the 1840 census, then listed as born 1814 in the 1850 census. We find Susan's surname in the death record of Jonathon and Susan's son Addison W Gadberry (born Nov 1850 or Nov 1851 and died 30 Nov 1921).

These two have been mixed up and listed in trees in Ancestry enough as Susan Elizabeth so that when looking at primary records on one of them Ancestry will point to the other one as being a good record to look at for further information. In one instance even Samantha Rainwater (Jonathon's third wife by 1860 census) is suggested as a possibility.

George, Jr. did have a daughter Susan (born 1807) who married Andrew J. Gadberry (born 1804) in 1826 and raised a family with him, but there is no evidence that she is Susan Elisabeth.

While Donn's research, in the form of modified registers, is available on the EFA website, our webmaster notes that the data has not yet been added to the overall Christian Eller database. He has started but because of the large amount of information it will take time.