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# Augustana Seniors Fall 1885: Andrew Forsberg

Enrique Tuason Adam Glendenning Yaw Owusu Ansah

20 May 2022

# **Andrew Forsberg**

Andrew Forsberg was born 27 July 1864 in Gagnef, Gagnef Municipality, Dalarna County, Sweden.<sup>1</sup> Andrew's original Swedish name was Anders Forsberg.<sup>2</sup> Andrew is the son of Johan Andersson Forsberg and Anna Olsdotter.<sup>3</sup> Andrew is also the brother of Jan Forsberg.<sup>4</sup>

Andrew and his family left Sweden for the United States on 5 March 1869 from Kopparberg, Dalarna County, Sweden.<sup>5</sup> When Andrew and his family arrived in the United States, they settled in Cambridge, Isanti County, Minnesota <sup>6</sup> Andrew's parents, Jan Andersson Forsberg and Anna Olsdotter, then became farmers.<sup>7</sup>

Andrew enrolled in Augustana College and Theological Seminary in Rock Island, Rock Island County, Illinois (despite not finding his registration information) on 7 June 1882.<sup>8</sup> As some of Andrew's exams were over languages like Latin, English, and Swedish, it is likely that he was proficient in those languages.<sup>9</sup> During his senior year, Andrew was voted treasurer of the Handel-Oratorio Society, holding this position for three years, even after graduating, until 1889.<sup>10</sup> Andrew ended up graduating with an AB average in the spring of 1886 as a major in Classical Literature.<sup>11</sup> Andrew took pictures with his graduating class and from the pictures, it is most likely that he wore glasses for a good portion of his life.<sup>12</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>1</sup> Senior Class Record, 1885-1886, Box 15, MSS 241 Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>2</sup> Senior Class Record, 1885-1886, Box 15, MSS 241, Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>3</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", database of Images, *ArkivDigital*, (http://www.arkivdigital.net: accessed 16 March 2022), image 192 / page 188. Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, USA.

<sup>4 &</sup>quot;Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>5</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>6</sup> Augustana College Catalog 1884–1885, p. 12–13, volume bound in Augustana College Catalog 1871–1891, Aug. Inst., LD 271, A6651, C3, 1871–1891; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>7</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>8</sup> Senior Class Record, 1885-1886, Box 15, MSS 241, Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>9</sup> Class of 1886 Exams, MSS 240, Box 17, Folder 6 & 7, Box 18, Folder 1; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>10</sup> Handel-Oratorio Society, MSS 231, Box 1, Folder 1; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>11</sup> Commencement Program, 1886, Folder 1 1868-1899, Box 1 Commencement Programs 1868-1936, MSS 248, Augustana College Office of the President Records, Special Collections, Augustana College, Rock Island. Illinois.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>12</sup> Picture of the Class of 1886, C-D00015; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

After graduating from Augustana, Andrew attended Ann Harbor College in Michigan. <sup>13</sup> Andrew later married Anna Matilda Anderson in Iron Mountain, Menominee County, Michigan, United States on 10 August 1888. <sup>14</sup> Andrew and Anna then had a son named John Harold Forsberg on 6 July 1889 in Republic, Marquette County, Michigan. <sup>15</sup> Andrew and Anna also had a daughter named May Anna Forsberg on 14 May 1892 in Republic, Marquette County, Michigan. <sup>16</sup>

Later on, Andrew moved to Minneapolis, Hennepin County, Minnesota and became a well-known resident.<sup>17</sup> Andrew then moved to Douglas Island, Juneau County, Alaska in 1898 where he became a chief engineer for the Treadwell Gold Mining Company.<sup>18</sup> Despite not attending Augustana's Theological Seminary,<sup>19</sup> Andrew held yearly sermons every Christmas and was also the first person to give a Swedish sermon in Alaska on 25 December 1899.<sup>20</sup>

Andrew Forsberg died on 12 January 1902<sup>21</sup> due to a mining accident in a chute of the Mexican Mine of the Treadwell Gold Mining Company in Douglas City, Juneau County, Alaska.<sup>22</sup> Andrew was buried on 15 January 1902 in the Douglas Cemetery, located in Douglas

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>13</sup> "Died.", *Douglas Island News* [Volume 4, Number 9] (Douglas City, Alaska), 15 January 1902, image 3, article in lower right; *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov), Library of Congress; Alaska State Library Historical Collections; Article on death of Andrew Forsberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>14</sup> "Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1940," database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:939V-JBQB-G?cc=1810350&wc=Q868-N2S%3A150748201%2C1507738 01 : 29 November 2018), Menominee > Marriages, 1887-1906, v. C > image 18 of 363; various archives, Michigan. <sup>15</sup> "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NQ8L-C9K: 20 February 2021), John Forsberg, 06 Jul 1889; citing item 2 p 282 rn 544, Republic, Marquette, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,321,100. Birth of John Harold Forsberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>16</sup> "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark://61903/1:1:NONH-I 9N: 20 February 2021). May Anna

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:NQNH-L9N: 20 February 2021), May Anna Forsberg, 14 May 1892; citing item 1 p 231 rn 96, Republic Twp., Marquette, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,322,378. Birth of May Anna Forsberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>17</sup> "KILLED IN A MINE.", *The Minneapolis Journal* (Minneapolis, Minnesota), 6 February 1902, page 7, image 8, article in lower right; *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov), Library of Congress; Minnesota Historical Society; Article on death of Andrew Forsberg.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>18</sup> "KILLED IN A MINE.", *The Minneapolis Journal*, 6 February 1902.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>19</sup> Senior Class Record, 1885-1886, Box 15, MSS 241, Augustana College Office of the Registrar Records.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>20</sup> "KILLED IN A MINE.", *The Minneapolis Journal*, 6 February 1902.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>21</sup> "City Chat.", *Rock Island Argus* [Volume 11, Number 102] (Rock Island, Illinois), 17 February 1902, page 8, image 8, article in upper left; *Chronicling America: Historic American Newspapers* (chroniclingamerica.loc.gov), Library of Congress; University of Illinois at Urbana-Champaign Library; Article on city happenings. <sup>22</sup> "KILLED IN A MINE.", *The Minneapolis Journal*, 6 February 1902.

City, Juneau County, Alaska.<sup>23</sup> After Andrew's passing, Andrew and Anna's third child, Esther Andrea Helena Forsberg, was born in the United States in 1902.<sup>24</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>23</sup> "Died.", *Douglas Island News*, 15 January 1902.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>24</sup> "BillionGraves Index," database, FamilySearch (https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVMZ-PMPQ: 24 June 2015), Esther A. Forsberg, died 1958; citing BillionGraves (http://www.billiongraves.com: 2012), Burial at Cherry Grove Cemetery, Gaston, Washington, Oregon, United States. Grave of Esther Andrea Helena Forsberg.

### **Ancestors of Andrew Forsberg**

#### Generation 1

1. Andrew Forsberg. For more information about Andrew, see biography in the main part.

#### Generation 2

- 2. Johan "Jan" Andersson Forsberg. Johan is the son of Anders Mattson and Stina **Ersdotter.** Johan was born 22 October 1827, was born at the Grangärde Parish, Sweden.<sup>25</sup> Johan was baptized on 26 October 1827.<sup>26</sup> Johan married **Kerstin** Andersdotter on 23 May 1863.<sup>27</sup>
- 3. Anna Olsdotter. Anna was born 23 September 1833 at the Gagnef Parish, Sweden. 28 Jan Andersson Forsberg and Anna Olsdotter had 2 children.<sup>29</sup>
  - **a.** Andrew. For more information about Andrew, see biography in the main part.
  - **b. Jan.** Jan was born 22 June 1867.<sup>30</sup>

#### Generation 3

**4.** Anders Matsson. Anders was born 18 January 1791. 31 He worked in a mine. 32

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>25</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>26</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", *ArkivDigital*, image:192 / page:188. 2022 <sup>27</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", *ArkivDigital*, image:192 / page:188. 2022 <sup>28</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", *ArkivDigital*, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>29</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image: 192 / page: 188, 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>30</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image:192 / page:188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>31</sup> "Gagnef (W) AI:30 (1868-1877)", ArkivDigital, image: 192 / page: 188. 2022

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>32</sup> "Grangärde (W) AI:14b (1822-1829)", database of Images, ArkivDigital, (http://www.arkivdigital.net: accessed 16 March 2022) image 171 / page 150. Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, USA.

- 5. Stina Ersdotter. Stina was born on 14 April 1801. 33 Anders Matsson and Stina Ersdotter had 2 children.34
  - **a.** Johan. Johan was born 22 October 1827.<sup>35</sup>
  - **b.** Eric. Eric was born 18 August 1825. 36

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>33</sup> "Grangärde (W) C:8 (1826-1842)", database of Images, *ArkivDigital*, (http://www.arkivdigital.net: accessed 16 March 2022) image 250. Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center, Augustana College, Rock Island, Illinois, USA.

<sup>34 &</sup>quot;Grangärde (W) C:8 (1826-1842)", *ArkivDigital*, image:250. 2022 35 "Grangärde (W) C:8 (1826-1842)", *ArkivDigital*. image:250. 2022 36 "Grangärde (W) C:8 (1826-1842)", *ArkivDigital*. image:250. 2022

### **Descendants of Andrew Forsberg**

#### Generation 1

**1. Andrew Forsberg.** Andrew Forsberg married Anna Matilda Anderson.<sup>37</sup> For more information about Andrew and Anna, see biography in the main part.

Andrew and Anna had 3 children<sup>38</sup>

- 2. i. Esther Andrea Helena Forsberg. Esther Andrea Helena Forsberg was born in 1902.<sup>39</sup>
- **3. ii. May Anna Forsberg.** May Anna Forsberg was born in 1892.<sup>40</sup> May died in 1954.<sup>41</sup>
- **+4. iii. John Harold Forsberg.** John Harold Forsberg was born 6 July 1889 in Michigan, United States.<sup>42</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>37</sup> "Michigan, County Marriages, 1820-1940," database with images, FamilySearch. Menominee > Marriages, 1887-1906, v. C > image 18 of 363; various archives, Michigan.

 <sup>38 &</sup>quot;Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch. 14 May 1892; citing item 1 p 231 rn 96,
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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>40</sup> "Michigan Births, 1867-1902," database with images, FamilySearch. 14 May 1892; citing item 1 p 231 rn 96, Republic Twp., Marquette, Michigan, Department of Vital Records, Lansing; FHL microfilm 2,322,378.

<sup>41</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/35246122/may-anna-forsberg: accessed 25 April 2022), memorial page for May Anna Forsberg (1892–1954), Find a Grave Memorial ID 35246122, citing Cherry Grove Cemetery, Cherry Grove, Washington County, Oregon, USA; Maintained by Jim P (contributor 47103099).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>42</sup>"Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVK4-4GG9: 30 May 2020), John Harold Forsberg, 1957; Burial, , ; citing record ID, Find a Grave, http://www.findagrave.com.

#### Generation 2

- **4. John Harold Forsberg.** John Harold Forsberg was born 6 July 1889 in Michigan, United States. 43 John married Ruth Catherine Karlson. 44 John served in the Army during W.W.I. 45 John died 11 September 1957 in East Windsor, Hartford, Connecticut, United States. 46 John and Katherine had 3 children. 47
  - **5. i. Phillip Forsberg.** Phillip Forsberg was born in 1930 and died in 1930.<sup>48</sup>
  - **+6. ii. John Kendall Forsberg.** John Kendall Forsberg was born on 24 May 1928.<sup>49</sup>
  - 7. **iii. Living Forsberg.** Living Forsberg was born around 1931.<sup>50</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>43</sup>"Find A Grave Index," database, FamilySearch (https://www.familysearch.org/ark:/61903/1:1:QVK4-4GG9: 30 May 2020), John Harold Forsberg, 1957; Burial, , ; citing record ID , Find a Grave, http://www.findagrave.com. <sup>44</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch

<sup>(</sup>https://familysearch.org/ark:/61903/3:1:3QS7-89M1-MQ62?cc=2000219&wc=QZXY-Q2Z%3A794389501%2C80 1711301%2C801715701%2C801715702: accessed 20 April 2022), Washington > Wahkiakum > Deep River Election Precinct > 35-5 Deep River Election Precinct > image 6 of 9; citing Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>48</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/35246014/philip-a-forsberg: accessed 25 April 2022), memorial page for Philip A. Forsberg (1930–1930), Find a Grave Memorial ID 35246014, citing Cherry Grove Cemetery, Cherry Grove, Washington County, Oregon, USA; Maintained by Jim P (contributor 47103099).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>49</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch Washington > Wahkiakum > Deep River Election Precinct > 35-5 Deep River Election Precinct > image 6 of 9; citing Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>50</sup> "United States Census, 1940," database with images, FamilySearch Washington > Wahkiakum > Deep River Election Precinct > 35-5 Deep River Election Precinct > image 6 of 9; citing Sixteenth Census of the United States, 1940, NARA digital publication T627. Records of the Bureau of the Census, 1790 - 2007, RG 29. Washington, D.C.: National Archives and Records Administration, 2012.

#### Generation 3

- **6. John Kendall Forsberg.** John Kendall Forsberg was born on 24 May 1928 in Portland, Multnomah, Oregon.<sup>51</sup> John married Eleanor Lucille Shearer and had children<sup>52</sup>. John served his country as a member of the National Guard<sup>53</sup>. He died on 16 July 1988 in Portland, Multnomah, Oregon<sup>54</sup>. John is buried at Hillside Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington, Oregon<sup>55</sup>. John and Eleanor had 3 children<sup>56</sup>.
  - 7. Living Forsberg<sup>57</sup>
  - 8. Living Forsberg<sup>58</sup>
  - 9. Living Forsberg<sup>59</sup>

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>51</sup> Find a Grave, database and images (https://www.findagrave.com/memorial/43821154/john-kendall-forsberg: accessed 25 April 2022), memorial page for John Kendall Forsberg (24 May 1928–16 Jul 1988), Find a Grave Memorial ID 43821154, citing Hillside Cemetery, Forest Grove, Washington County, Oregon, USA; Maintained by Keith Pyeatt (contributor 47173993).

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>52</sup> "Find A Grave Index", FamilySearch, database entry for John Kendall Forsberg (d. 1988), Forest Grove, Washington, Oregon, United States of America.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>53</sup> "Find A Grave Index", FamilySearch, database entry for John Kendall Forsberg (d. 1988), Forest Grove, Washington, Oregon, United States of America.

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>54</sup> "Find A Grave Index", FamilySearch, database entry for John Kendall Forsberg (d. 1988), Forest Grove, Washington, Oregon, United States of America.

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<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>59</sup> "Find A Grave Index", FamilySearch, database entry for John Kendall Forsberg (d. 1988), Forest Grove, Washington, Oregon, United States of America.

# **Questions for Further Research**

We wonder about Andrew's life in Gagnef, Dalarna County, Sweden. We do not have much information about Andrew's life then. Were there any stories about Andrew's family in Sweden? Where exactly did Andrew live in Sweden?

We do not have much information on Andrew's ancestors. How far documented are Andrew's ancestors? Did Andrew immigrate to the United States with other unknown family members? Are there any descendants living today who have stories of Andrew and his family?

We do not have many stories of Andrew's time at Augustana College and Theological Seminary. Are there any documented stories of Andrew's time at the college? Are there any more pictures of Andrew at the college?

We do not have information on what happened to Andrew's parents and brother in the United States. When did Andrew's parents die? When did Andrew's brother, Jan, die? What did Jan do in the United States? Did Andrew's parents stay farmers?

A record for Andrew Forsberg is in the Family Tree on *FamilySearch*. The record locator is LWVL-7DF.

# **Images**



The Augustana College graduating class of 1886. Andrew Forsberg is in the front row, third from left.  $^{60}$ 

<sup>&</sup>lt;sup>60</sup> Picture of the Class of 1886, C-D00015; Augustana College, Special Collections, Rock Island, Illinois.

### **Acknowledgments**

We would like to thank Cole Alberts, Ryan Carr, and Gabe Vallejo for all of their previous work on this project. We would like to thank Micaela Terronez & Harrison Phillis of the Augustana College Special Collections and Jill Seaholm of the Swenson Swedish Immigration Research Center for providing us documents of Andrew Forsberg. We would like to thank FamilySearch.org for providing documents and information on Andrew Forsberg's family. We would also like to thank The Church of Jesus Christ of the Latter Day Saints as they are the ones maintaining and providing the website, FamilySearch.org. We would like to thank BillionGraves.com for providing information on Andrew Forsberg's family.

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