

Andres Rey  
24 April 1873 to 21 July 1917



He died before I was born. Andres came to America when he was 33 year old from San Julian de Lamas Coruna, Spain. He was born approximately April 24, 1873. My mother, Hilda Rey-James, was his middle child. She was born April 30, 1914 and died Nov. 3, 1997; she told me the story about his death. His oldest child was Esther Rey-Hall, born on Sept. 11, 1912 and died in 1989, and his son, Samuel Andres Rey born Dec. 24, 1917 and died in 2001.

Andres' wife or my grandmother, Maria Luisa Martinez-Rey was born June 11, 1876-Dec. 30, 1958. She came to America from Santa Isabel de las Lajas, Las Villas, Cuba. They met in Tampa, Florida and lived in Ybor City where they had their family there. After 2 of their 3 children were born, Andres caught tuberculosis.

My grandmother (his wife and 2 daughters – and a son not yet born) were poor people and didn't go to Denver with him. He moved there because he caught tuberculosis and moved there for his health. He waited tables somewhere on Colfax in a small cafe in downtown until his death on July 18, 1917. He died a pauper. He was 44 years old. His son Samuel, would be born 5 months later.

My grandmother and her now 3 young children then moved with their aunts, uncles and cousins to Dallas and Ft. Worth where she lived with one of her sisters. Both of them took in sewing to make a living and support her 3 children.



Andres Rey's brothers were Ramon, Julian, and Angel. His sisters were Maria and Victoria.

My mother told me that the family may have some connection with the family that owns the Cuesta-Rey Cigar Factory. I tried to find out more when visiting Ybor City and Tampa where the factory still exists, but have had no luck finding anything.

Information and pictures provided 12 and 14 March 2021 by: Glenda Askins, granddaughter of Andres Rey