

Melchior Detweiler

By Abram Detwiler

Melchior Detweiler was born on April 2nd, 1699, in Wittwyl, Canton Aargau, Switzerland. Melchior's first wife is unknown. With his first wife, Melchior had four children: Christian, Rudolph, John, and Jacob. After the death of his first wife who died at a young age, he married again to Maria Ursula on August 11th 1758. Melchior first came to America on the 16th of September 1736 to escape religious persecution.

Melchior's family and one other family were the first in their church to travel to America. They boarded the ship, Princess Augusta, to make the crossing. When they landed at the British Port of Philadelphia all of their belongings were seized by the British crown and sold as a tax for having landed in a British port. This left Melchior and his family with nothing. After that, Melchior went up north to Berks County, Pennsylvania, and eventually bought a farm. This is where Melchior lived till his death. His exact date of death is unknown.

Detwiler, Lyle. "Melchior Detweiler." n.pag. *Find A Grave*. Web. 16 Oct 2013.

<http://www.findagrave.com/cgi-bin/fg.cgi?page=gr&GRid=50672659>>.