



Three generations of the Sangiacomo family have farmed in Sonoma since 1927.

The Sangiacomo family has always felt a deep connection to the land -- most especially through farming. It all began in Genoa, Italy where a good day's work for Vittorio Sangiacomo started and ended in the field. He voyaged to America in 1913 on the advice of his father and got his first job at age 17 in the vegetable fields at Bay Farm Island in Alameda County, California. Shortly thereafter he began working in the scavenger industry in San Francisco where he later successfully launched his own business. But he longed to return to working the land and in 1927, he purchased a 52-acre fruit tree ranch in Sonoma Valley that the family today still calls the "Home Ranch."

Vittorio's next move was to settle down and start a family. In 1928 he married Maria, a hard-working and warm-hearted woman, who had also immigrated from Genoa, Italy. Together they raised four children --- Angelo, Bob, Buck and Lorraine --- all of whom learned the business the hard way, working in the fields after school and each summer.



Maria & Vittorio Sangiacomo, 1928



Lorraine, Buck, and Angelo Sangiacomo

The Sangiacomo family struggled through the Great Depression and then slowly built the business until they became the largest pear-growing farmers in Sonoma County. But over time the market for pears began to crash. In order to survive as a family business the Sangiacomos had no choice but to switch gears and jump headlong into grapegrowing. After testing the water in 1969, they planted their first vineyard. By the late 1980s, the conversion from pear trees to grapes was complete.

Vittorio passed away in 1987 and Maria in 1995. Shortly thereafter the younger generation --- Mike and Whitney Sangiacomo, Steve and Connie Sangiacomo, and Mia and Mike Pucci --- joined the family business. As the third generation, they run the day-to-day operations, yet draw heavily upon the daily support and knowledge of the second generation --- Angelo and Diane, Buck and Sue, and Lorraine Sangiacomo. The two generations work side-by-side every single day to make decisions and keep the ball rolling.



Buck, Angelo & Bob Sangiacomo

The Sangiacomos are proud to continue the family's farming tradition and are certain they would not be where they are today without the knowledge and values learned from previous generations. And they continue to plant seeds to enable future generations of the family to build upon the legacy of this third generation family business.