

GRANHOLM GENEALOGY

SWEDISH ANCESTRY

Recent Royalty (1751 - Present)

INTRODUCTION

Our Swedish ancestry is quite comprehensive as it covers a broad range of the history. For simplicity the information has been presented in four different books.

Book 1 – Mythical to Viking Era (? – 1250)

Book 2 – Folkunga Dynasty (1250 – 1523)

Book 3 – Vasa Dynasty (1523 – 1751)

Book 4 – Recent Royalty (1751 – Present)

Book 4 covers the most recent history including the wars with Russia that eventually led to the loss of Finland to Russia and the emergence of Finland as an independent nation as well as the history of Sweden during World Wars I and II.

A list is included showing our relationship with the royal family according to the lineage from Nils Kettilsson Vasa. The relationship with the spouses is also shown although these are from different ancestral lineages. Text is included for those which are highlighted in the list.

Recent Swedish Royalty Relationship to Lars Erik Granholm

- 1 **Adolf Frederick King of Sweden** b. 14 May 1710 Gottorp d. 1771 Stockholm (9th cousin, 10 times removed)
m. **Louisa Ulrika Queen of Sweden** b. 24 July 1720 Berlin d. 16 July 1782 Swartsjö (22nd cousin, 11 times removed)
- 2 **Frederick Adolf Prince of Sweden** b. 1750 d. 1803 (10th cousin, 9 times removed)
2. **Sofia Albertina Princess of Sweden** b. 1753 d. 1829 (10th cousin, 9 times removed)
2. **Charles XIII King of Sweden** b. 1748 d. 1818 (10th cousin, 9 times removed)
- 2 **Gustav III King of Sweden** b. 1746 Stockholm d. 1792 Stockholm (10th cousin, 9 times removed)
m. **Sofia Magdalena Princess of Denmark** b. 1746 d. 1813 Ulriksdal, Sweden (18th cousin, 6 times removed)
- 3 **Gustav IV Adolf King of Sweden** b. 1 November 1778 d. 7 February 1837 (11th cousin, 8 times removed)
m. **Friederike Dorothea Queen of Sweden** b. 1781 d. 1826
- 4 **Sophie Wilhelmine Queen of Sweden** b. 21 May 1801 d. 6 July 1865 (12th cousin, 7 times removed)
m. **Leopold I, Grand Duke of Baden** b. 1790 d. 1852 (26th cousin, 7 times removed)
- 5 **Frederick I, Grand Duke of Baden** b. September 9, 1826 d. September 28, 1907 (13th cousin, 6 times removed)
m. **Louise Princess of Prussia** b. 1838 d. 1923 (26th cousin, 7 times removed)
- 6 **Victoria Queen of Sweden** b. 7 August 1862 d. 4 April 1930 (14th cousin, 5 times removed)
m. **Gustaf V King of Sweden** b. 1858 d. 1950 (27th cousin, 6 times removed)
- 7 **Gustaf VI Adolf King of Sweden** b. 1882 d. 1973 (15th cousin, 4 times removed)
m. **Margaret Princess of Connaught** (21st cousin, 3 times removed)
- 8 **Gustaf Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten** b. 1906 d. 26 January 1947 Kastrup (16th cousin, 3 times removed)
m. **Sibylla Princess of Sweden** b. 1908 Schloss Friedenstien d. 28 November 1972 Stockholm
- 9 **Carl XVI Gustaf King of Sweden** b. 30 April 1946 (17th cousin, twice removed)
m. **Silvia Queen of Sweden** b. 23 December 1943 Heidelberg
- 10 **Victoria, Crown Princess of Sweden** b. 14 July 1977 Stockholm (18th cousin, once removed)

Adolf Frederick of Sweden

Adolf Frederick (Swedish: *Adolf Fredrik*) (Gottorp, 14 May 1710 – Stockholm, 12 February/12 April 1771) was King of Sweden from 1751 until his death. He was the son of Christian August of Holstein-Gottorp, Prince of Eutin and Albertina Frederica of Baden-Durlach.

Adolf Frederick of Sweden, painted by Lorens Pasch the Younger



Ancestry

His father was Christian Augustus (1673—1726) duke and a younger prince of Schleswig-Holstein-Gottorp, prince-bishop of Lubeck, and administrator, during the Great Northern War, of the duchies of Holstein-Gottorp for his relative Charles Frederick. His mother was Albertina Frederica of Baden-Durlach.

On his mother's side, Adolf Frederick descended from king Gustav I of Sweden and from Christina Magdalena, a sister of Charles X of Sweden. From both his parents he was descended from Holstein-Gottorp, a house with a number of medieval Scandinavian royal dynasties among its ancestors. Adolf Frederick was also a 13th-generation descendant of Erik V of Denmark; a 13th-generation descendant of Sophia of Denmark and Valdemar I of Sweden; and an 11th-generation descendant of Euphemia of Sweden, Duchess of Mecklenburg and her husband the duke Albrecht.

Reign

From 1727 to 1750 prince Adolf Frederick was prince-bishop of Lübeck (which meant the rulership of a fief around and including Eutin), and administrator of Holstein-Kiel during the minority of his nephew, Duke Charles Peter Ulrich, afterwards Peter III of Russia. In 1743 he was elected heir to the throne of Sweden by the Hat faction in order that they might obtain better conditions of Peace of Turku from Empress Elizabeth of Russia, who had adopted his nephew as her heir. He succeeded as Adolf I Fredrik on 5 April 1751.

During his whole reign (1751-1771), Adolf Frederick was little more than a state decoration, the real power being lodged in the hands of an omnipotent riksdag, distracted by fierce party strife. Twice he endeavoured to free himself from the intolerable tutelage of the estates. The first occasion was in 1755 when, stimulated by his imperious consort Louisa Ulrika of Prussia, sister

of Frederick the Great, he tried to regain a portion of the attenuated prerogative, and nearly lost his throne in consequence. On the second occasion, under the guidance of his eldest son, the crown prince Gustavus, afterwards Gustav III of Sweden, he succeeded in overthrowing the tyrannous "Cap" senate, but was unable to make any use of his victory.



His mother, a widow princess, died in Hamburg on 22 December 1755. She was a descendant of earlier royal dynasties of Sweden, granddaughter of Christina Magdalena of Palatinate, Charles X's sister.

Death

The king died of digestion problems on 12 February 1771 after having consumed a meal consisting of lobster, caviar, sauerkraut, kippers and champagne, which was topped off with 14 servings of his favourite dessert: *semla* served in a bowl of hot milk.^[1] He is thus remembered by Swedish school children as "the king who ate himself to death."

King Adolf Frederick

He was regarded, both during his time and in later times, as dependent on others, a weak ruler and lacking of any talents. But he was allegedly also a good husband, a caring father and a gentle master to his servants. His favourite pastime was to make snuff boxes, which he allegedly spent a great deal of time doing. His personal hospitality and friendliness were witnessed by many who deeply mourned him at his death.

His portrait is included with the 16-sheet series of *Princely Persons on Horseback* by Johann Elias Ridinger.

Children

By his marriage to Princess Louisa Ulrika of Prussia (which took place on 18 August/29 August 1744 in Drottningholm), he had the following children:

1. (Stillborn) (Stockholm, 18 February 1745 - Stockholm, 18 February 1745)
2. Gustav III (1746-1792)
3. Charles XIII (1748-1818)
4. Frederick Adolf (1750-1803)
5. Sofia Albertina (1753-1829)

Louisa Ulrika of Prussia

Louisa Ulrika of Prussia (Berlin, 24 July 1720 - Svartsjö, 16 July 1782) was a Swedish Queen, Queen consort of Sweden between 1751 and 1771 as wife of King Adolf Frederick of Sweden, and queen mother of King Gustav III of Sweden and King Charles XIII of Sweden.

Louisa Ulrika, Queen of Sweden painting by Antoine Pesne, c. 1744 m



Louisa Ulrika was the daughter of Frederick William I of Prussia and his wife Sophia Dorothea of Hanover, and was thus a younger sister of both Wilhelmine of Bayreuth and Frederick the Great.

Crown Princess

In Drottningholm on 18 August/29 August 1744, Ulrika married Adolf Friedrich von Holstein-Gottorp, who had been elected crown prince of Sweden in 1743 and after his succession to the throne in 1751 reigned as King Adolf Frederick of Sweden. She was recommended as a bride by Russia, just as her husband was recommended as an heir to the throne by Russia. Louisa Ulrika was received with great

enthusiasm in Sweden when she arrived in 1744 as a hope of solving the country's succession problems, and gained popularity with her beauty and by the birth of her children; no children had been born in the Swedish royal house in over fifty years at the birth of her first child.

The court of the crown prince couple, called "The young court", amused themselves with picnics, masquerades and French amateur theatre.

Queen

As soon as she became queen in 1751, she made preparations to overthrow the parliament. The vow to respect the constitution which her husband made upon his accession to the throne was a great sorrow for her. Her attempt of a royalistic revolution was prevented in 1756. The same year, Sweden went to war against her brother, which she opposed. Nevertheless, she remained a dominant figure, with numerous quarrels with the government over the years. In 1763, the government asked her to write to her brother, the King of Prussia, in order to prevent the Swedish province of Pommerania in Germany from being annexed by Prussia after the Seven Years War, which she did after great persuasion. She succeeded in the negotiations, which for her was a form of triumph over the parliament. As a sign of gratitude for this act, the government paid her debts, which made it possible for her to use her money to affect the voting in the parliament through bribes; her plan was now to change the constitution through this method.

The Failed Royal Revolution of 1756

Queen Louisa Ulrika strongly dominated her husband and the court, and she would also have been the real ruler during her husband's reign if the Swedish monarchy had not been stripped of its power in 1718 and 1720; at this point, the king was a mere decoration and Sweden was a monarchy only in name. This greatly displeased the queen, herself born in an absolute monarchy. She could not understand nor condone the parliament; for her, it was not acceptable for a royal person to have to receive peasants in the royal salons, as she was forced to do with the peasants' representatives from the parliament. She was further enraged when the parliament forced the king to give up his claims on the throne of Holstein, and arranged the marriage between her son Gustav to Sofia Magdalena of Denmark, when she herself had preferred a German princess. She was enraged when the parliamentarian C.F. Scheffer was appointed her son's educator. In 1755, the parliament decided that, if the king refused to sign the laws issued by the government, a stamp would be used instead.

Louisa Ulrika as widow, painting by Lorens Pasch d.y.



To display her contempt, she humiliated the parliament's representatives by the etiquette of the royal court; she stopped their carriages at the Palace gates, let them wait for hours, while she let those who arrived before them be received and let them sit on small little, low stools before her to make them lose their dignity.

In the three months following her coronation, Louisa Ulrika removed the diamonds from the crown and replaced them with glass. She gathered followers among the aristocracy to plan a coup d'état to overthrow the government, dissolve the parliament, and reinstate absolute monarchy in Sweden. Her followers were called the *hovpartiet* (The royal court party), and they were men from the nobility in opposition to the parliament for

personal reasons, wanting rewards from the queen after a successful coup. In the court theatre, the French and Italian troupes performed plays hinting that the king should take control over his kingdom.

To finance the coup, the Queen pawned the jewelry she had been given as a wedding gift by the state, as well as some of the crown jewels belonging to the state, among them 44 diamonds she had placed in the Queen's Crown, which she pawned in Berlin to borrow money. The lady-in-waiting of the Queen, Ulrika Strömfelt, informed the government that parts of the crown jewels were missing. For this act, she was later to receive the honorary title "*Ständernas dotter*" ("Daughter of the Parliament") and a pension of 2000. The government demanded to inspect the

crown jewels, as it was the property of the state. The Queen refused, as she did not recognise any right of the government to inspect anything. At the same time, the king was taken ill, and the government retreated to allow him to recover, giving the queen time to get the diamonds back to the inspection. At the same time, weapons and bullets were being made. The plan was to hire criminals to cause chaos on the streets; the royalistic officers would then block the streets, the royalists would be armed and the King would enter the square to "resume control", after which the public would "celebrate him as the saviour from the parliament".

The plans were often discussed at the pub of the royalistic Ernst Angel. Angel was the illegitimate son of Maximilian of Hesse-Kassel (or Hesse-Cassel), the brother of king Frederick I of Sweden, which he often pointed out. The 21 June 1756, the police heard Angel talk about the plans of a royal revolution while he was drunk. He was arrested and interrogated, and the next day, the arrests of the noblemen begun. When the royal couple entered Stockholm after a stay at from Drottningholm Palace that night the streets were filled with the military. The whole conspiracy against the parliament was discovered. The parliament voted for a death sentence for four of the involved noblemen, who were decapitated on Riddarholmstorget in Stockholm in front of thousands of spectators, outside the royal palace, and three days later, Ernst Angel and three more were decapitated. Several others were sentenced to prison, whipping, exile, pillorying and by being banned from seats in the parliament.



Lovisa Ulrika, by Alexander Roslin, 1775

The Queen, who was the instigator behind all this, received a strong note from the parliament communicated by the archbishop, who forced her to write a letter of confession and regret. He afterwards said, that he thought he had seen "tears of rage and sorrow" in her eyes: she herself wrote that she had tried to display: "all the coldness, all the contempt possible to make in a demonstration": she regretted nothing but that her revolution had failed. The king had a statement read to him saying that he would be deposed if she ever attempted something similar again.

In 1771, the king died and she became a Dowager Queen. Louisa Ulrika was at the death of the king immensely unpopular in Sweden: when the news of the king's death reached her son, the new king, who was then in Paris, he wrote that the Queen Dowager be protected, as "I know how little loved my mother is".

However, she could never settle with the position of dowager queen, and her last years were spent in bitterness. She had expected to be the real ruler behind the throne, and when her son made it clear that he would rule independently from her, their relationship worsened. Gustav paid her debts with the condition that she established her own separate court at Fredrikshof. In 1777, she was forced to sell Drottningholm Palace to her son Gustav.

Prince Frederick Adolf of Sweden

Prince Fredrick Adolf Swedish: *Fredrik Adolf* German: *Friedrich Adolf* (18 July 1750 Drottningholm - 12 December 1803 Montpellier, France), was a Swedish Prince, youngest son of King Adolf Frederick of Sweden and Louisa Ulrika of Prussia, a sister Frederick the Great, King of Prussia. He was given the title Duke of Östergötland.

Portrait by Alexander Roslin of (from left to right) king Gustav III, prince Frederick Adolf and prince Charles



The Duke was described as "The most beautiful Prince in Europe". He is described as sensitive, passive and spoiled by his mother. He and his sister, Sophia Albertina, were their mother's favourites and also devoted to each other; during family conflicts, such as the famous succession scandal regarding the birth of the crown prince (1778), him and his sister were on their mother's side. He took part in the revolution of 1772 and was given the title of duke by his brother as a recognition, but he soon became a part of the opposition against his brother.

Prince Fredrick Adolf was never married, and the ceremonial duties of his consort were performed by his sister Sophia Albertina, but he lived for several years, from 1778 to 1795, with the dancer Sophie Hagman and had a daughter, Sophia Frederica, with her.

He died in Montpellier in France in 1803.

Sophia Albertina of Sweden, Abbess of Quedlinburg

Sophia Maria Luisa Friedrike Albertina (Stockholm, 8 October/18 October 1753 – Stockholm, 17 March 1829) was a Swedish royal Princess, daughter of King Adolf Frederick of Sweden and Louisa Ulrika of Prussia.

Sophia Albertina was given the title of *Coadjutrix* in the German Roman Abbey in 1767. She was interested in dancing and acting, though she was not considered very talented within these fields, and participated in the amateur theatre at court. She was also interested in riding and hunting and had at least thirteen named dogs as pets.



Princess Sophia Albertina

Charles XIII of Sweden

Charles XIII & II (Swedish: *Carl XIII*) (1748 - Stockholm, 5 February 1818), was King of Sweden (as **Charles XIII**) from 1809 and King of Norway (as **Charles II**) from 1814 until his death. He was the second son of King Adolf Frederick of Sweden and Louisa Ulrika of Prussia,



Charles XIII of Sweden wearing the Order of Charles XIII in red

Life and politics

Prince Charles was appointed great admiral a few days old. He was a good dancer at the amateur theatre of the royal court, but was not very close to his mother; the Queen preferred her youngest children, Sophie Albertine and Frederick Adolf, but he and his oldest Gustav was described as close. In 1772 he cooperated in the revolutionary plans of his elder brother, King Gustav III of Sweden and was as a sign of recognition appointed Duke of Södermanland.

On the outbreak of the Russo-Swedish War of 1788 he served with distinction as admiral of the fleet, especially at the battles of Hogland (June 7, 1788) and Öland (July 26, 1789). On the latter occasion he would have won a signal victory but for the unaccountable remissness of his second-in-command, Admiral Liljehorn.

The battle of Öland



On the death of Gustav III in 1792, Charles acted as regent of Sweden till 1796; but the real ruler of the country was the narrow-minded and vindictive Gustaf Adolf Reuterholm, whose mischievous influence over him was supreme. These four years were perhaps the most miserable and degrading in Swedish history and may be briefly described as alternations of fantastic Jacobinism and ruthless despotism.

Russo-Swedish War (1788-1790) Battle of Hogland



Gustav III of Sweden

Gustav III ([Stockholm](#), 24 January [[O.S.](#) 13 January] 1746 – [Stockholm](#), [29 March 1792](#)) was [King of Sweden](#) from 1771 until his death. He was the eldest son of King [Adolf Frederick of Sweden](#) and [Louisa Ulrika of Prussia](#), sister of [Frederick the Great](#).

As he opposed the [parliamentarian](#) reforms that had been worked out before his reign, in the [Age of Liberty](#), and as he spent high amounts on things that pleased him, he was controversial. To distract attention from this, he tried to expand Sweden's borders through a [war against Russia](#), but the attempt was unsuccessful. In the end, Gustav was assassinated by a conspiracy of noblemen.

Gustav III was a benefactor of arts and literature. He founded several academies, among them the [Swedish Academy](#), and had the [Royal Swedish Opera](#) built.

Gustav III painted in 1775 by [Alexander Roslin](#)



Marriage

By proxy in [Christiansborg Palace, Copenhagen](#), on [1 October 1766](#) and in person in [Stockholm](#) on [4 November 1766](#), Gustav married [Sophia Magdalena](#), daughter of [Frederick V of Denmark](#), whom he had married by proxy in [Copenhagen](#) on [1 October](#). The match was an unhappy one, owing partly to incompatibility of temper; but still more to the mischievous interference of the jealous queen-mother. The marriage produced two children: Crown Prince [Gustav Adolf](#) (1778-1837), and Prince [Carl Gustav, Duke of Småland](#) ([Drottningholm](#), [25 August 1782](#) - [Stockholm](#), [23 March 1783](#)).

Russo-Swedish War (1788–1790)



Trophies from the [Battle of Svensksund](#) brought into the [Stockholm Cathedral](#).

Painting by [Pehr Hilleström](#).

Gustav as [Apollo Belvedere](#) dressed in the uniform of the Swedish Coastal Navy, landing on the quays of Stockholm, returning from the war to offer a twig of peace to the burghers of Stockholm.

Statue at [Skeppsbron](#) by [Johan Tobias Sergel](#).



The Battle of Svensksund. By Johan Tietrich Schoultz



Throughout 1789 and 1790 Gustav conducted the [war with Russia](#), finally winning the [Battle of Svensksund](#), on [July 9](#), regarded as the greatest naval victory ever gained by the [Swedish Navy](#). The Russians lost one-third of their fleet and 7,000 men. A month later, on [August 14, 1790](#), peace was signed between Russia and Sweden [at Värälä](#). Only eight months before, Catherine

had declared that "the odious and revolting aggression" of the king of Sweden would be "forgiven" only if he "testified his repentance" by agreeing to a peace granting a general and unlimited amnesty to all his rebels, and consenting to a guarantee by the Swedish diet ("as it would be imprudent to confide in his good faith alone") for the observance of peace in the future. The [Treaty of Värälä](#) saved Sweden from any such humiliating concession, and in October 1791 Gustav concluded an eight years' defensive alliance with the empress, who thereby bound herself to pay her new ally an annual subsidy of 300,000 roubles.

Gustav now aimed at forming a league of princes against the [Jacobins](#), and subordinated every other consideration to this goal. His profound knowledge of popular assemblies enabled him, alone among contemporary sovereigns, accurately to gauge from the first the scope and bearing of the [French Revolution](#). He was, however, hampered by poverty and the lack of support from the other European Powers, and, after the brief [Gävle](#) diet [January 22–February 24, 1792](#), he fell victim to a widespread [conspiracy](#) among his aristocratic enemies.

Revolution

Gustav III (left) and his two brothers, prince Fredrik Adolf and prince Carl, later [Charles XIII of Sweden](#). Painting by [Alexander Roslin](#).

On his return to Sweden Gustav III tried to mediate between the bitterly divided Hats and Caps.

On [21 June 1771](#), he opened his first [Riksdag of the Estates](#) (parliament) with a speech which aroused powerful emotions. It was the first time for more than a century that a Swedish king had addressed a Swedish Riksdag in its native tongue.



The subsequent attempts of the dominant Caps to reduce him to a [roi fainéant](#) (a powerless king), encouraged him to consider a revolution.



Under the sway of the Cap faction, Sweden seemed threatened with falling prey to Russia. It appeared on the point of being absorbed in that "Northern System" which the Russian vice-chancellor, Count [Nikita Panin](#), strove to bring about. It seemed that only a swift and sudden [coup d'état](#) could preserve Sweden's independence.

Gustav III in 1777

At this juncture Gustav III was approached by [Jacob Magnus Sprengtporten](#), a Finnish nobleman, who had incurred the enmity of the Caps, with the project of a revolution. He undertook to seize the fortress of [Sveaborg](#) by a [coup de main](#), and once Finland was secured, to

embark for Sweden, join up with the king and his friends near [Stockholm](#), and force the [estates](#) to accept a new constitution from the untrammelled king.

The plotters were at this juncture reinforced by [Johan Christopher Toll](#), also a victim of Cap oppression. Toll proposed to raise a second revolt in the province of [Scania](#), and to secure the southern fortress of [Kristianstad](#). After some debate, it was finally arranged that, a few days after the Finnish revolt had begun, Kristianstad should openly declare against the government.

[Duke Charles \(Karl\)](#), the eldest of the king's brothers, would thereupon be forced to hastily mobilize the garrisons of all the southern fortresses, for the ostensible purpose of crushing the revolt at Kristianstad; but on arriving before the fortress he was to make common cause with the rebels, and march upon the capital from the south, while Sprengtporten attacked it simultaneously from the east.

On [16 August](#), the Cap leader, [Ture Rudbeck](#), arrived at Stockholm with the news of the insurrection in the south, and Gustav found himself isolated in the midst of enemies. Sprengtporten lay weather-bound in Finland, Toll was five hundred miles away, the Hat leaders were in hiding. Gustav thereupon resolved to strike the decisive blow without waiting for the arrival of Sprengtporten.

He acted promptly. On the evening of [August 18](#) all the officers whom he thought he could trust received secret instructions to assemble in the great square facing the arsenal on the following morning. At ten o'clock on [19 August](#) Gustav mounted his horse and rode straight to the arsenal. On the way his adherents joined him in little groups, as if by accident, so that by the time he reached his destination he had about two hundred officers in his suite.

After parade he reconducted them to the guard-room, which is located in the north western wing of the palace and it is where the Guard of Honour had, and has, its headquarters, and unfolded his plans to them. He told the assembled officers that:

"If you follow me, just like your ancestors followed [Gustav Vasa](#) and [Gustavus Adolphus](#), then I will risk my life and blood for you and the salvation of the fatherland!"

A young ensign then spoke up:

"We are willing to sacrifice both blood and life in Your Majesty's service!"

Gustav then dictated a new [oath of allegiance](#), and every one signed it without hesitation. It absolved them from their allegiance to the estates, and bound them solely to obey "their lawful king, Gustav III".

Meanwhile the [Privy Council](#) and its president, Rudbeck, had been arrested and the [fleet](#) secured. Then Gustav made a tour of the city and was everywhere received by enthusiastic crowds, who hailed him as a deliverer. A special song was also composed by [Carl Mikael Bellman](#) called [Toast to king Gustav!](#)

On the evening of [20 August](#) heralds perambulated the streets proclaiming that the estates were to meet at the Palace on the following day; every deputy absenting himself would be regarded as the enemy of his country and his king, and on [August 21](#), a few moments after the estates had assembled. A new [Constitution](#) was read to the estates and unanimously accepted by them. The diet was then dissolved.

Assassination

A masked ball took place at the [Royal Opera House](#) in Stockholm at midnight on [16 March 1792](#). Gustav had arrived earlier that evening to enjoy a dinner in the company of friends. During dinner, he received an anonymous letter that contained a threat to his life, but, as the king had received numerous threatening letters in the past, he chose to ignore it, and, after dining, left his rooms to take part in the masquerade.



Soon upon entering, he was surrounded by [Anckarström](#) and his co-conspirators Claes Fredrik Horn and Adolf Ribbing. The king was easily spotted, mainly due to the breast star of the [Royal Order of the Seraphim](#) which glowed in silver upon his cape. The conspirators were all wearing black masks and accosted him in French with the words:

Bonjour, beau masque ("Good-day, fine mask")

Anckarström moved in behind the King and fired a pistol-shot into the left side of his back. The King jumped aside, crying in French:

Ah! Je suis blessé, tirez-moi d'ici et arrêtez-le ("Ah! I am wounded, take me away from here and stop him!")

The King was immediately carried back to his quarters, and the exits of the Opera were sealed. Anckarström was arrested the following morning, and immediately confessed to the murder, although he denied a conspiracy until informed that Horn and Ribbing had also been arrested and had confessed in full.

The king had not been shot dead, but was alive, and continued to function as head of state. The coup was a failure in the short run. However, the wound became infected and on [29 March](#) he finally died, his last words being:

Jag känner mig sömnig, några ögonblicks vila skulle göra mig gott ("I feel sleepy, a few moments rest will do me good")

Sophia Magdalena of Denmark

Sofia Magdalena of [Denmark](#) and [Norway](#) ([Christiansborg Palace, Denmark, 3 July 1746](#) - [Ulriksdal Palace, Sweden, 21 August 1813](#)) was a [Queen consort](#) of [Sweden](#).

She was the eldest surviving child of [King Frederick V of Denmark](#) and [Norway](#) and [Queen Louise](#). Her maternal grandparents were [George II of Great Britain](#) and [Caroline of Ansbach](#).

Sofia Magdalena of Danmark by [Carl Gustaf Pilo](#) (1765)



Early life

At the age of five (1751), she was betrothed to the heir to the throne of Sweden, Gustav, and she was brought up to be the queen of Sweden. The marriage was arranged by the parliament, not by the Swedish royal house, and was disliked by the queen, [Louisa Ulrika of Prussia](#), who was since long in conflict with the parliament and who favored a match with her niece, [Philippine of Brandenburg-Schwedt](#), instead. On [1 October 1766](#) she was married to Gustav by proxy at [Christiansborg Palace](#) in [Copenhagen](#). The two married in person in [Stockholm](#) on [4 November](#).

At the Swedish court, she was received with kindness from the king but she was hated by Louisa Ulrika, who was the dominating presence in the court, and completely ingored by her husband; her mother-in-law encouraged the distance between the couple. She was beautiful, brought the largest dowry a royal bride had brought since 1680 and was carefully educated to be a perfect queen and received many praises, but she never became very popular, and her strict upbringing made it difficult for her to adjust to the environment of the more vivacious Swedish court. Being of a reserved nature, she was considered cold and arrogant within the court. After King [Adolf Frederick of Sweden](#) died in 1771, [Gustav III](#) became King of Sweden. The following year Sophia Magdalena was crowned queen.

Queen Sofia Magdalena was a serious and shy person and she was never a member of the kings inner circle. She and her husband were very different in personality, which put even more distance between them. She did her ceremonial duties, but disliked the vivid lifestyle of the court

that her husband was a center of. She was somewhat mocked by the more social wit, her sister-in-law [Hedwig Elizabeth Charlotte of Holstein-Gottorp](#), when her social duties made her "Forced to meet people"; she preferred to stay at her private residence [Ulriksdal Palace](#) whenever she could. It is also said that she preferred the English fashion before the French because she found it less revealing.

Later life

Widowed in 1792, after her husband was murdered, Sofia lived a withdrawn life and spent much effort on charity. She was deeply horrified by the murder of her husband, but she also made a scandal by refusing to dress in mourning, and it was a great relief for her to be a widow and withdraw from public life. Her brother-in-law, Duke Karl, became regent, and she eschewed a political role.

In 1797, she insisted on skipping the protocol to make her new daughter-in-law, [Frederica of Baden](#), to feel welcome, as she remembered how lonely she herself had felt when she arrived as a bride. She never had any political influence, and in 1809, she was forced to witness the [abdication](#) of her son, King [Gustav IV Adolf of Sweden](#), after Sweden lost [Finland](#) to Russia. He was sent into exile and replaced by his paternal uncle [Charles XIII](#), but she remained in Sweden until her death in 1813.

It has been said of her: *"She remained one of the most tragic and isolated people in the history of the Swedish court"*.



Sophia Magdalena of Denmark

Gustav IV Adolf of Sweden

Gustav IV Adolf (1 November 1778 – 7 February 1837), was [King of Sweden](#) from 1792 until his abdication in 1809. He was the son of [Gustav III of Sweden](#) and his queen consort [Sophie Magdalena](#), eldest daughter of [Frederick V of Denmark](#) and his first wife [Louise of Great Britain](#). He was the last Swedish ruler of [Finland](#).

King of Sweden and Finland



On 31 October 1797 Gustav married [Friederike Dorothea](#), granddaughter of [Karl Friedrich](#), Margrave of [Baden](#), a marriage which seemed to threaten war with [Russia](#) but for the fanatical hatred of the [French republic](#) shared by the [Emperor Paul of Russia](#) and Gustav IV Adolf, which served as a bond of union between them.

Loss of Finland

His reign was ill-fated and was to end abruptly. In 1805, he joined the Third Coalition against Napoleon. His campaign went poorly and the French occupied [Swedish Pomerania](#). When his ally, Russia, made peace and concluded an alliance with France at Tilsit in 1807, Sweden and Portugal were left as Great Britain's European allies. On 21 February 1808, [Russia invaded Finland](#), which consisted of provinces of Sweden, on the pretext of compelling Sweden to join Napoleon's Continental System. Denmark likewise

declared war on Sweden. In just few months after, almost all of Finland was lost to Russia. As a result of the war, on 17 September 1809, in the [Treaty of Hamina](#), Sweden surrendered the eastern third of Sweden to Russia. The autonomous [Grand Duchy of Finland](#) within [Imperial Russia](#) was established.



Coup d'etat and abdication

Gustav arrested.

Gustav Adolf's inept and erratic leadership in diplomacy and war precipitated his deposition through a conspiracy of army officers. On 13 March 1809 seven of the conspirators broke into the royal apartments in the palace, seized the king, and imprisoned him and his family in



[Gripsholm](#) castle; Duke Charles (Karl) was thereupon persuaded to accept the leadership of a provisional government, which was proclaimed the same day; and a diet, hastily summoned, solemnly approved of the revolution.

On 29 March Gustav IV Adolf, to save the crown for his son, voluntarily abdicated; but on 19 May the [Riksdag of the Estates](#), dominated by the [army](#), declared that not merely Gustav but his whole family had forfeited the throne, perhaps an excuse to exclude his family from succession based on the belief that the King's father was Munck af Fulkila. On 5 June the duke regent (Gustav's uncle) was proclaimed king under the title of [Charles XIII](#), after accepting a new liberal [constitution](#), which was ratified by the diet the same day. In December Gustav and his family were transported to [Germany](#). In 1812 he divorced from his wife.

Children

1. Crown Prince [Gustaf](#), after 1809 known as *Gustaf Gustafsson of Vasa* ([November 9, 1799](#)–1877)
2. Princess [Sofia Wilhelmina](#) ([May 21, 1801](#)–1865), married Grand Duke [Leopold I of Baden](#)
3. Prince Carl Gustaf, [Grand Duke of Finland](#), Duke of [Småland](#) ([Drottningholm, 2 December 1802](#) – [Haga, 10 September 1805](#))
4. Princess Amelia Maria Charlotta ([Stockholm, 22 February 1805](#) – [Vienna, 31 August 1853](#)), unmarried and without issue
5. Princess [Cecilia](#) ([June 22, 1807](#)–1844), married August, [Grand Duke of Oldenburg](#).

Sofia Wilhelmina would marry [Leopold I of Baden](#), and their granddaughter, [Victoria of Baden](#), would eventually marry [Gustav V of Sweden](#), thus connecting the House of [Bernadotte](#) with the previous Swedish dynasties.

Princess Sophie of Sweden

Princess **Sophie Wilhelmine of Sweden** ([Swedish](#): *Sophie Vilhelmina Katherine Marie Louise Charlotte Anne af Sverige*, [German](#): *Sophie Wilhelmine Katherine Marie Louise Charlotte Anne von Schweden*, ([21 May 1801](#) - [6 July 1865](#)), was a consort Grand Duchess of [Baden](#).

Portrait by [Franz Xavier Winterhalter](#) of Sophie, Margravine of Baden (1831)

Sophie was born in [Stockholm, Sweden](#), on 21 May 1801. She was the daughter of King [Gustav IV Adolf of Sweden](#) and [Queen consort Frederica of Baden](#). On 25 July 1819 in [Karlsruhe](#), Sophie married her half-grand-uncle [Leopoldo I of Baden](#). They became the paternal grandparents of the Swedish Queen consort [Victoria of Baden](#).

Sophia and [Leopold I](#) had the following children:

- [Alexandrine](#) (1820-1904), married Duke [Ernest II of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha](#) (1818-93), childless marriage due to which Ernest's younger brother [Albert](#)'s British issue succeeded in that duchy.
- Ludwig (1822-22)
- [Louis II](#) (1824-58), reigned as Grand Duke 1852-58, deemed mentally unfit to rule.
- [Frederick I](#) (1826-1907), Grand Duke 1858-1907, Regent 1852-58, father of [Queen Victoria of Sweden](#).
- William (1829-97), Prussian General, married Marie of [Leuchtenberg](#), became ancestor of the younger line of princes of Baden and father of [Prince Max of Baden](#), German Chancellor, and later the heir of Grand Duchy.
- Charles (1832-1906), married Rosalie von Beust (morganatic)
- Marie (1834-99), married Prince Ernest of Leiningen (1830-1904)
- [Cecilie](#) (1839-91), known as Olga Feodorovna, married [Grand Duke Michael Nicolaievich of Russia](#) (1832-1902), Governor General in Tbilisi.



She died at [Karlsruhe Palace](#) on 6 July 1867

Frederick I, Duke of Baden

Friedrich I of Baden, by Rudolf Epp, 1857

Grand Duke Friedrich I of Baden (Frederick Wilhelm Ludwig) ([September 9, 1826](#) – [September 28, 1907](#)) was the sixth Grand Duke of [Baden](#) from 1856 to 1907.

Friedrich I was born in [Karlsruhe](#), on [September 9, 1826](#). He was the third son of [Grand Duke Leopold](#) (1790-1852) and of his wife, [Grand Duchess Sophie](#) (1801-1865), who was born Princess of Sweden, daughter of King [Gustav IV Adolf of Sweden](#).

In 1856 he married [Princess Louise of Prussia](#), daughter of (then the crown prince) [Wilhelm I](#) and his wife [Empress Augusta](#), born as Princess of Saxe-Weimar. The couple had three children:



Issue

Name	Birth	Death	Notes
Grand Duke Frederick II of Baden	July 9, 1857	August 9, 1928	Married Princess Hilda of Luxembourg , no issue.
Queen Victoria of Sweden	August 7, 1862	April 4, 1930	Married King Gustav V of Sweden , had issue.
Prince Ludwig of Baden	June 12, 1865	February 23, 1888	Died unmarried, no issue.

Friedrich I was present at the proclamation of the German Empire at [Versailles](#) in 1871, as he was the only son-in-law of the Emperor and one of the reigning sovereigns of Germany. He died at his summer residence at the island of [Mainau](#) in southern Germany on September 28, 1907. Today, [Mainau](#) is owned by the Lennart Bernadotte-Stiftung (the Lennart Bernadotte Foundation), created by Fredericks great-grandson [Count Lennart Bernadotte](#), (1909-2005).

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Louise_of_Prussia

Princess Louise of Prussia

Princess Louise of Prussia (*German*: *Luise Marie Elisabeth*; [Berlin](#), [December 3, 1838](#) – [Baden-Baden](#), [April 23, 1923](#)) was the second child and only daughter of [Wilhelm I of Germany](#) and [Augusta of Saxe-Weimar](#). She was the younger sister of [Frederick III of Prussia](#) ("Fritz") and aunt of [Wilhelm II of Germany](#). Louise was seven years younger than Fritz and only two years older than his wife, [Victoria, Princess Royal](#).

Marriage and children

She married [Frederick I, Grand Duke of Baden](#) on [September 20, 1856](#) in [Berlin](#). They had three children.



Grand Duchess Louise of Baden



The Grand Duchess Louise abt. 1905

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Victoria_of_Baden

Victoria of Baden

Princess Viktoria of Baden (Sophie Marie Viktoria) (7 August 1862 – 4 April 1930), later **Queen Victoria of Sweden**, was a member of the Grand Ducal Family of Baden, who became the Queen Consort of King Gustav V of Sweden.

Queen Victoria in 1910



Birth

Princess Viktoria was born on 7 August 1862 at the castle in Karlsruhe, Baden. Her father was Grand Duke Friedrich I of Baden, the fourth child of Grand Duke Leopold I of Baden and Grand Duchess Sophie of Baden (*née* Princess Sofia of Sweden). Her mother was Grand Duchess Luise of Baden (*née* Princess Luise of Prussia), the second child of Emperor Wilhelm I of Germany and Empress Augusta of Germany (*née* Princess Augusta of Saxe-Weimar). Victoria was also great-granddaughter (by her paternal grandmother) of King Gustav IV Adolf of Sweden and Queen Fredrika of Sweden (*née* Princess Frederika of Baden).

Marriage

Princess Viktoria married in Karlsruhe on 20 September 1881 Crown Prince Gustaf of Sweden and Norway, the son of King Oscar II of Sweden and Norway and Queen

Sofia of Sweden and Norway (*née* Princess Sophia of Nassau). Princess Viktoria then became Princess Victoria.

Life as a Queen

She became Queen of Sweden at her father-in-law's death on September 8, 1907. Gustaf became the new King as *Gustaf V*. Princess Victoria then became Queen Victoria.

Queen Victoria had substantial political influence over her husband, who was often considered Pro-German. She and her husband were brought together by their royal families, and their marriage was reported not to have been such a happy one (although is said to have been improved towards the end of their lives). They both had affairs outside of the marriage, but the marriage produced three children.

Queen Victoria suffered from a very poor health (much due to mistreatment from several doctors in her youth), and she often went abroad on trips to make her health better (she suffered from

bronchitis and possibly tuberculosis). As Crown Princess, these trips were very common, but became much less so once she became Queen Consort.

From 1892 until her death, Axel Munthe was her personal physician and recommended for health reasons that she spend winters on the Italian island of Capri. While initially hesitant, in the autumn of 1910 she traveled to Capri, arriving to an official welcome and a crowd which escorted her from the Marina Grand to the Hotel Paradise. From then on, except during the first world war and for the last two years of her life, she spent several months a year on Capri. After some time, she decided to purchase her own residence on Capri, an intimate rustic two-story farmhouse she named Casa Caprile, which she had extensively landscaped, surrounding it with a dense park. In the 1950s, some years after her death, this property became a hotel.

Crown Princess Victoria and Crown Prince Gustaf of Sweden, 1880s



Gustaf V Adolf of Sweden

Gustav V (Oscar Gustav Adolf) (16 June 1858 – 29 October 1950) was King of Sweden from 1907 until his death. He was the eldest son of King Oscar II of Sweden and Sophia of Nassau, a half-sister of Adolphe I, Grand Duke of Luxembourg.

Early life

Gustav V was born in Drottningholm Palace and at birth was created Duke of Värmland. On December 8, 1907 he succeeded his father on the Swedish throne, which had been separated from the Norwegian throne two years earlier.

Gustav V, King of Sweden

He married in Karlsruhe Princess Victoria of Baden on 20 September 1881. She was the granddaughter of Sofia of Sweden, and her marriage to Gustav V united by a real blood link (and not only so-called adoption) the reigning Bernadotte dynasty with the former royal house of Holstein-Gottorp.

Public life

Gustav V was the last Swedish king to intervene directly in the politics of the country, in 1914 on the disputes over defence budgets. He was a conservative man, who did not approve of the democratic movement and the demands for workers' rights. Gustav V was also the last Swedish king to be Supreme Commander of the Swedish Armed Forces (between 1907 and 1939).

Gustav V was considered to have German sympathies during World War I. His political stance during WWI was highly influenced by his domineering wife, who felt a strong connection to her German homeland. On the 18th December 1914 he sponsored a meeting with the other two kings of Scandinavia to demonstrate unity within and between the Scandinavian countries. Another of Gustav V's objectives with this, three-king conference was to dispel suspicions that he wanted to bring Sweden into the war on Germany's side.

Both the king and his grandson Prince Gustav Adolf, had socialized with certain Nazi leaders before World War II, though arguably for diplomatic purposes. Gustav V attempted to convince Hitler during a visit to Berlin to soften his persecution of the Jews, according to historian Jörgen Weibull. (Weibull, *Bernadottes on Sweden's Throne*). He was also noted for appealing to the leader of Hungary to save its Jews "in the name of humanity." At the behest of American



President Franklin D. Roosevelt, Gustav V appealed to Hitler for peace negotiations in 1938, "in the interest of peace".

When Nazi Germany invaded the Soviet Union in October 1941, Gustav V tried to write a private letter to Hitler thanking him for taking care of the "Bolshevik pest" and congratulating him on his "already achieved victories".(*Dagens Nyheter* 070729). He was stopped from doing so by the prime minister Hansson . Nevertheless the king sent the message to Hitler (through a telegram by the German embassy in Stockholm) behind the back of the government.

According to Prime Minister Hansson the king had, during a private conversation, threatened to abdicate if the government did not approve of the German request for permission to transfer one armed division (Engelbrecht mountain ranger division) through Swedish territory from northern Norway to northern Finland in June 1941. The accuracy of this claim is debated, and the king's stated intention (if he did in fact make this threat) was to avoid conflict with Germany, according to Hansson (Wahlbäck, *Regeringen och kriget. Ur statsrådets dagböcker 1939-41*). According to Ernst Wigforss, both Gustav V and Prince Gustav Adolf attempted to persuade the Swedish government to allow the Allies to transport troops through Sweden, though this was rejected by the government because it was felt it would cause retributions from Germany.



Gustav V accepting flowers



Gustav V, Crown Prince Gustav Adolf and Prince Bertil, 1943

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Margaret_of_Connaught

Princess Margaret of Connaught

Princess Margaret of Connaught (Margaret Victoria Charlotte Augusta Norah; later **Crown Princess of Sweden**; 15 January 1882 – 1 May 1920) was the daughter of Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, third son of Queen Victoria, and his wife, Princess Luise Margarete of Prussia. A Princess of Great Britain and Ireland, she was nicknamed *Daisy*.



Crown Princess Margaret of Sweden

The Princess was born at Bagshot Park and baptised in the Private Chapel of Windsor Castle on 11 March 1882 ***Her Royal Highness Princess Margaret of Connaught***.

When Princess Margaret of Connaught was 23 and her youngest sister Princess Patricia of Connaught was 18, both girls were among the most beautiful and eligible princesses in Europe. Their uncle, King Edward VII, wanted his nieces to marry a European king or crown prince. On January 1905, the Duke and Duchess of Connaught visited Portugal where they were received by Carlos of Portugal and Amélie of Orléans, whose sons Luís Filipe, Duke of Braganza, and Prince Manuel entertained the young English princesses. The Portuguese expected one of the Connaught princesses would become the future Queen of Portugal. Then the Connaughts visited Spain, where Patricia was expected to be King Alfonso XIII's future wife (later, Alfonso

married another granddaughter of Queen Victoria, Princess Victoria Eugenie of Battenberg).

The Connaughts continued their trip to Egypt and Sudan. In Cairo they met Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden, the future Gustav VI Adolf of Sweden, grandson of the Swedish King Oscar II. Gustaf and Margaret fell in love at first sight. Prince Gustaf proposed at a dinner held by Lord Cromer at the British Consulate in Egypt, and was accepted. Margaret had certainly fallen completely in love with Gustaf. Her parents were very happy with the match even though the Prince was ten months younger than his bride. Gustaf and Margaret married on 15 June 1905 in St. George's Chapel, at Windsor Castle.

She became the first wife of Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden on 15 June 1905. When Gustaf Adolf's father Gustav V acceded to the throne as King in 1907, the couple became Crown Prince and Princess of Sweden. She is the grandmother of the current King of Sweden, Carl XVI Gustaf, as well as her namesake, the current Queen of Denmark, Margrethe II, and former Queen of Greece, Princess Anne-Marie of Denmark.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Gustaf_VI_Adolf_of_Sweden

Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden

M Gustaf VI Adolf (Oskar Fredrik Vilhelm Olaf Gustaf Adolf) (11 November 1882 - 15 September 1973) was King of Sweden from 1950 until his death. He was the eldest son of King Gustaf V and his wife Victoria of Baden.

Gustaf VI Adolf, King of Sweden



He was born in Stockholm and at birth created Duke of Skåne. On 29 October 1950, he succeeded his father on the throne. His personal motto was *Plikten framför allt*, "Duty before all".

He married, firstly, Princess Margaret of Connaught on 15 June 1905 in St. George's Chapel, at Windsor Castle. Princess Margaret was the daughter of HRH Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, third son of Queen Victoria and Prince Albert of the United Kingdom.

He married, secondly, Lady Louise Mountbatten, formerly HSH Princess Louise of Battenberg, on 3 November 1923 at St. James's Palace. She was the sister of Lord Mountbatten and aunt of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh. It was Lady Louise who became Queen of Sweden. Both Queen Louise and her stepchildren were great grandchildren of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom.

Reign

In 1950, Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf became king at age 67 upon the death of his father, King Gustaf V.

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Lady_Louise_Mountbatten

Louise Mountbatten (22nd cousin twice removed, Folkunga dynasty)

Louise Alexandra Marie Irene (13 July 1889 – 7 March 1965), **Queen of Sweden** (1950-1965), was the second wife of King Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden.

Louise, Queen consort of Sweden



Louise was born "Her Serene Highness Princess Louise of Battenberg" at Heiligenberg Palace in the Grand Duchy of Hesse. Her father, Prince Louis of Battenberg, who was Admiral of the Fleet in the UK, renounced all his German titles in 1917, during World War I, and furthermore anglicized his family name ("*Battenberg*") to "Mountbatten". He was then created the first Marquess of Milford Haven in the peerage of the United Kingdom. His daughter then came to be known as "Lady Louise Mountbatten". Louise was a sister of Louis Mountbatten, 1st Earl Mountbatten of Burma, an aunt of Prince Philip, Duke of Edinburgh, and was also a niece of Empress Alexandra Feodorovna of Russia.

Louise once stated that she would never marry a widower or a king: in 1909, the 20-year-old Louise received a marriage proposal from King Manuel II of Portugal. Her great uncle, King Edward VII wanted her to accept but she declined the marriage offer. Edward asked her parents Prince Louis of Battenberg and Princess Victoria of Hesse and by Rhine to make her

change her mind but Louise said she would never marry a king or a widower (despite the fact that she liked Manuel)

However Louise later did both: on 3 November 1923, at age 34, Louise married Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden at St. James's Palace; later King Gustaf VI Adolf. The marriage was very happy, but tragically their only child, a daughter, was stillborn (30 May 1925).^[citation needed] Louise loved children and enjoyed spending time with her stepchildren (Gustav's children from his first marriage to Princess Margaret: Gustav Adolf, Sigvard, Ingrid, Bertil and Carl Johan) being very lively and playful herself.

During the Finnish Winter War, as several Finnish children were sent to Sweden, she arranged for a children's home on the grounds of Ulriksdal Palace (the King and Queen's spring residence), where she'd often turn up herself, participating in the children's daily games.^[citation needed] After the war, she kept up the contact with the Finnish "Ulriksdal-children" and visited them later on in Helsinki when they'd grown up. During World War I Louise had also served as a nurse at the front in France for two years (1915-1917), at the Hospital Anglais in Nevers by the

river Loire. For this she received the Royal Red Cross.^[citation needed] Queen Louise was quite an eccentric and had several pomeranian dogs which she would hide about her person when visiting abroad which caused problems when travelling through customs (which she usually did under the pseudonym "Countess of Gripsholm" or "Mrs Olsson"). She was also a very nervous lady. When in London, she would jay walk and generally cross roads unsafely. One day, she was almost hit by a bus and so took to carrying a small card with the words, "I am the Queen of Sweden" printed on it. When her brother, Louis Mountbatten, asked her why she did this, she said, "Well, if I was to get knocked down in the street, nobody would know who I was. If they looked in my handbag, they'd find out".



Queen Louise and King Gustaf VI Adolf in the way the Stockholmers frequently got used to see them; on one of their morning walks in Stockholm. Here on the Vasa bridge...

It didn't help that her brother pointed out that she'd probably be taken for just another loony. A similar story is also told that Louise had a footman follow her with a cardboard sign reading, "The Queen of Sweden" so that people would know who she was but there is no confirmation of that Queen Louise was much liked among the Swedes and appreciated for her humour and down-to-earth approach (as was the King)The King and Queen were frequently seen walking together in Stockholm, completely alone by themselves; without what we today call "bodyguards" (not even any people from the court). At a first glance they'd look just like any other old Stockholm-couple, the King politely lifting his hat to people they met like every other gentleman.

Prince Gustaf Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten

Prince Gustaf Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten (20 April/22 April 1906 - Kastrup, 26 January 1947) was the eldest son of Gustaf VI Adolf of Sweden and his first wife Princess Margaret of Connaught. His mother was a granddaughter of Queen Victoria since she was the daughter of HRH Prince Arthur, Duke of Connaught, and his wife, Princess Luise Margarete of Prussia.

Prince Gustaf Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten



Marriage and family

On 19 October/20 October 1932, he married in Coburg his second cousin, Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, daughter of Carl Eduard, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Princess Sibylla was a great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria, a granddaughter of HRH Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany.

Death

Prince Gustaf Adolf was killed in a airplane crash on the afternoon of 26 January 1947, at the Kastrup Airport, Kastrup, Denmark. The prince, along with two companions, was returning to Stockholm from a hunting trip and visit to Crown Princess Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands. The delayed KLM flight from Amsterdam had landed at Copenhagen for a routine stop before continuing to

Stockholm. Soon after the Douglas DC-3 aircraft took off, it climbed to an altitude of about 50 meters (150 ft), stalled, and plummeted nose-first to the ground, where it exploded on impact. All 22 people aboard the plane (16 passengers and six crew members) were killed. Also aboard the ill-fated flight was American singer and actress Grace Moore.

At the time of his death, Prince Gustaf Adolf had been second in line to the Swedish throne behind his father, who in 1950 became King Gustaf VI Adolf. The younger Gustaf Adolf was succeeded as second in line by his only son, Carl Gustaf, who would later succeed his grandfather as **King Carl XVI Gustaf**.

On 19 October/20 October 1932, he married in Coburg his second cousin, Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg-Gotha, daughter of Carl Eduard, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. Princess Sibylla was a great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria, a granddaughter of HRH Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany.

They had five children:

Name	Birth	Death	Notes
Princess Margaretha	31 October 1934		married John Kenneth Ambler, has children
HRH Princess Birgitta	31 January 1937		married Johann Georg of Hohenzollern-Sigmaringen, has children
Princess Désirée, Baroness Silfverschiöld	2 June 1938		married Baron Nils-August Otto Carl Niclas Silfverschiöld, has children
Princess Christina, Mrs. Magnuson	3 August 1943		married Tord Gösta Magnuson, has children
HM King XVI Gustaf	Carl 30 April 1946		married Silvia Sommerlath, has children

Politics and World War II

Prince Gustaf Adolf, Hermann Göring and King Gustaf V of Sweden in Berlin 1939



Some recent journalists and historians portray Gustaf Adolf as sympathetic towards the Nazi movement in Germany in the 1930s, an opinion which has been highly debated and criticized. It is a fact that Gustaf Adolf as an official representative of Sweden met with many Nazi leaders, including Adolf Hitler and Hermann Göring (the latter had lived in Sweden and had many friends among the Swedish upper class). As the prince very rarely spoke of political matters and left no written evidence of any political sympathies of any kind, the subject is very much a matter of speculation.

These rumours however made him unpopular among many Swedes during his life time. The public called him *tyskprinsen* (the German prince). However, according to journalist and author Staffan Skott in his book *Alla dessa Bernadottar* (*All these Bernadottes*; Albert Bonniers press), these rumors are disproved by letters and diary entries by influential Swedes of decidedly anti-Nazi persuasion, including the diplomat Sven Grafström and the wife of a government minister Gustav Möller, as well as the stepson of Hermann Göring who said that a visit by the prince to Göring's home was a complete failure and that Göring and Gustaf Adolf did not get along well. Also, the anti-Nazi newspaper Expressen said that the rumors had been denied by "plausible witnesses who were also strongly pro-democracy".

http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Princess_Sibylla_of_Saxe-Coburg-Gotha

Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha

Princess Sibylla of Sweden, Duchess of Västerbotten (born Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha; Schloss Friedenstein, 18 January 1908 – Stockholm, 28 November 1972) (*Princess Sibylla Calma Maria Alice Bathildis Feodora*) was the wife of Prince Gustav Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten, and the mother of the current king of Sweden, Carl XVI Gustaf.

Princess Sibylla in the 1930s



Early life

She was the daughter of Charles Edward, Duke of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha, and Victoria Adelaide of Schleswig-Holstein, a daughter of Princess Caroline Mathilde of Schleswig-Holstein-Sønderburg-Augustenburg and Duke Frederick Ferdinand of Schleswig-Holstein-Sønderburg-Glücksburg, and from an ancient Scandinavian princely house. Through her father she was a great-granddaughter of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom. Her grandfather was Prince Leopold, Duke of Albany, the 4th son of Queen Victoria.

Marriage

On 19 October/20 October 1932, Sibylla married in Coburg her second cousin Prince Gustaf Adolf of Sweden, Duke of Västerbotten. Gustaf Adolf was the eldest son of Crown Prince Gustav Adolf

of Sweden (later Gustav VI Adolf) and Princess Margaret of Connaught, a granddaughter of Queen Victoria. Both Sibylla and Gustaf Adolf were great-grandchildren of Queen Victoria. Sibylla never became Crown Princess herself since her husband died before his grandfather (King Gustav V).

Later life

Sibylla was widowed, when, in 1947, Gustaf Adolf died in an airplane crash at the Copenhagen Airport in Denmark. Their son, Carl Gustaf, became second-in-line to the throne at the age of one year, and later Crown Prince at the age of four. She had a difficult relationship with her children, especially her son (Carl Gustaf) who resided in a different residence than her while growing up, being raised by nannies. Sibylla died of cancer before her son ascended the throne.

Carl XVI Gustaf of Sweden

Carl XVI Gustaf (Carl Gustaf Folke Hubertus; born 30 April 1946) has been King of Sweden (Swedish: '**Sveriges Konung**') since 15 September 1973. He is the only son of the late Prince Gustav Adolf, Duke of Västerbotten and Princess Sibylla of Saxe-Coburg and Gotha. He ascended the throne upon the death of his grandfather, King Gustav VI Adolf.

King of Sweden, Carl XVI Gustaf



Youth and education

Prince Carl Gustaf Folke Hubertus was the youngest of five children and the only son of Sweden's Prince Gustaf Adolf and Princess Sibylla. His father's death in an airplane crash outside Copenhagen, Denmark, on 26 January 1947 left the nine-month-old Prince second in line for the throne, behind his grandfather, then Crown Prince Gustaf Adolf. When his great-grandfather King Gustaf V died in 1950, the four-year-old Prince became heir apparent of Sweden.

In a speech^[1] in 2005, the King expressed some of his feelings about growing up without having known his father. His sister, Princess Birgitta, elaborated on these feelings in an interview around the same time, commenting that their mother and the strict Swedish royal court of the time didn't consider the emotional

needs of Prince Gustaf Adolf's children. In that era, she said, tragedy was seldom discussed with children. "Children's questions were met with silence, children's anxiety and fear with the same silence."

As a result, Crown Prince Carl Gustaf was seven years old before he had been told about his father's death. "It was Mother's way of handling the situation, to handle living her life. Of course it was not good for us children. It would have been much better to be able to speak about Father's death," continued Princess Birgitta. She said it had been difficult for the future King to come to grips with not having a father and of not having the same memories of him as his older sisters.

Marriage and family

The king married the half-Brazilian daughter of a German businessman. Silvia Sommerlath met the then-Crown Prince at the 1972 Summer Olympics in Munich, where she was an interpreter and host. The wedding was held 19 June 1976 at Stockholm Cathedral ("Storkyrkan Cathedral") ("Kungliga Hovförs") in Stockholm, and the ceremony was performed by the Archbishop of Uppsala, Olof Sundby. The King and his family reside at Drottningholm Palace outside of Stockholm since 1980 and use the Royal Palace of Stockholm as their workplace.

They have three children:

1. Victoria, Crown Princess of Sweden, Duchess of Västergötland (1977–)
2. Prince Carl Philip, Duke of Värmland (1979–)
3. Princess Madeleine, Duchess of Hälsingland and Gästrikland (1982–)



The King and Queen of Sweden at the White House, 23 October 2006

Victoria, Crown Princess of Sweden



*Crown Princess of Sweden
Duchess of Västergötland*

Victoria, Crown Princess of Sweden, Duchess of Västergötland (Swedish: *Kronprinsessan Victoria, Sveriges kronprinsessa, hertiginna av Västergötland*, Victoria Ingrid Alice Désirée; born (14 July 1977) is the heiress apparent to the Swedish throne. If she ascends to the throne as expected she will be Sweden's fourth queen regnant (after Queen Margaret, Queen Christina, and Queen Ulrika Eleonora).

She is the eldest child of King Carl XVI Gustaf and Queen Silvia, and belongs to the Royal House of Bernadotte. She is predominantly of German descent. Victoria is the only female heir-apparent in the world currently (though there are several females who are heiresses-apparent of an heir-apparent) and is usually styled *HRH The Crown Princess*. She is currently 192nd in the Line of Succession to the British Throne through her father, who is a great-great-grandson of Queen Victoria of the United Kingdom, thus making him (along with the Queen of Denmark and the King of Spain) a third cousin of Queen Elizabeth II