

The Ultimate Pedigree Challenge

Is it possible for someone to be his own grandpa? This story is a clever song written by Dwight Latham and Moe Jaffe (1997, General Music Publishing Company, Inc.). Read the following and attempt to draw a pedigree of this man's family.

Many, many years ago when I was twenty-three
I was married to a widow who was pretty as could be.
This widow had a grown-up daughter who had hair of red
My father fell in love with her and soon the two were wed.

This made my dad my son-in-law and changed my very life
For my daughter was my mother, 'cause she was my father's wife.
To complicate the matter even though it brought me joy
I soon became the father of a bouncing baby boy.

My little baby then became a brother-in-law to dad
And so he became my uncle though it made me very sad
For if he is my uncle then that also makes him brother,
To the widow's lovely daughter who, of course, was my stepmother.

Father's wife then had a child, which kept them on the run,
And he became my grandchild, 'cause he was my daughter's son;
My wife she is my mother's mother and it makes me blue,
Because although she is my wife, she's my grandmother too.

Now if she is my grandmother then I'm her grandchild
And every time I think of it, it nearly drives me wild'
For now I have become the strangest case you ever saw
As husband of my grandmother I am my own grandpaw.

Chorus:
Oh, I'm my own grandpa; I'm my own grandpa
It sounds funny, I know, but it really is so
Oh I'm my own grandpaw