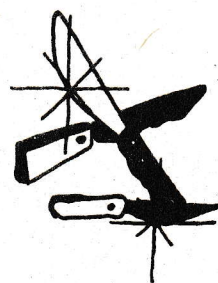


# ANTON AND MARY KUZNIA



# Family Tree of Anton and Mary Kuznia

**ANTON KUZNIA b-1873, d-1942**  
to  
**MARY WILEBSKI b-1883, d-1903**

**1. Leokadia Kuznia b-1903, d-1965 to John Kazmierczak b-1906**

**A. Mickoli Kazmierczak b-1929**

**B. Mary Ann Kazmierczak b-1930 to Joseph Walter b-1930**

- 1) Edward Walter b-1959
- 2) Eugene Walter b-1961
- 3) Bernard Walter b-1965
- 4) Monica Walter b-1966
- 5) Helen Walter b-1968
- 6) Lois Walter b-1970
- 7) Grace Walter b-1972

**C. Lucy Kazmierczak b-1932, d-1978**

**D. Dory Kazmierczak b-1933 to Darlene Derosier b-1940**

- 1) Karen Kazmierczak b-1964
- 2) Jane Kazmierczak b-1966
- 3) Cheryl Kazmierczak b-1968
- 4) Linda Kazmierczak b-1969
- 5) Amy Kazmierczak b-1974

**E. John Kazmierczak, Jr. b-1934 to Irene Woinarowicz b-1936**

- 1) Theresa Kazmierczak b-1955 to Charles Walrath b-1947
- 2) Elizabeth Ann Kazmierczak b-1956
- 3) Mary Kazmierczak b-1957
- 4) Joann Kazmierczak b-1959 to Glenn Roberts b-19
- 5) Thomas Kazmierczak b-1960
- 6) Donald Kazmierczak b-1962
- 7) Veronica Kazmierczak b-1966
- 8) Bernadette Kazmierczak b-1970

- 9) Robert Kazmierczak b-1971
- 10) Paulette Kazmierczak b-1972
- 11) Keith Kazmierczak b-1976

**F. Timothy Kazmierczak b-1935 to Marcella Nowacki b-1943**

- 1) Arnold Kazmierczak b-1964
- 2) Connie Kazmierczak b-1965
- 3) Deborah Kazmierczak b-1967
- 4) Scott Kazmierczak b-1968
- 5) Wayne Kazmierczak b-1970
- 6) Brian Kazmierczak b-1977

**G. Scholastica Kazmierczak b-1936 to Jerome Walter b-1934**

- 1) Bernadette Walter b-1959
- 2) Bonnie Walter b-1960
- 3) Keneth Walter b-1964

**H. Henry Kazmierczak b-1938 to Joann Lubarski b-1938**

- 1) Patricia Kazmierczak b-1961
- 2) Susan Kazmierczak b-1966
- 3) Michael Kazmierczak b-1970
- 4) Francine Kazmierczak b-1972

**I. Dorothy Kazmierczak b-1940 to Gerald Laundry b-1937**

- 1) Michael Laundry b-1964
- 2) Kevin Laundry b-1965
- 3) Ann Marie Laundry b-1971
- 4) Robert Laundry b-1972

**J. Anthony Kazmierczak b-1942 to Bonita Schmitz b-1945**

- 1) Jeffrey Kazmierczak b-1972
- 2) Juanita Kazmierczak b-1973
- 3) Carol Kazmierczak b-1978
- 4) Paul Kazmierczak b-1979
- 5) Philip Kazmierczak b-1979



# *Anton and Mary (Wilebski) Kuznia*

Anton Kuznia was born November 6, 1873, in Poland to Albert and Hedwig (Krzyzosiak) Kuznia. It is believed that Anton came to America about the year 1881 with his father and two brothers, Frank and Stanley. His mother and other brothers and sister came in 1884.

Anton married Mary Ann Wilebski. She was born September 6, 1883, to Frank and Antonette (Januczek) Wilebski. Her brothers and sisters are: Joseph, Thomas (who married Anna Kuznia), Frances Olosonaski, Sam, Peter, John, Anna Clark, Antonette Price, Stanley, Victoria Loby, and Stella Kollinger.



**Anton and Mary [Wilebski] Kuznia -- Wedding Day**

Mary was from Lancaster, Minnesota, where they made their home while they were married. On December 7, 1903, she gave birth to a daughter, Leokadia. On December 27, at twenty years of age, she died of blood poisoning after childbirth. After she died from these complications, many young girls of the community were scared to get married. There had been other such deaths, and it had happened often enough.

Anton was a carpenter by trade. He made most of the coffins in the early 1900's, especially the coffins for little children. He also built a lot of houses during World War I. He did a lot of building in the Warsaw, North Dakota, area. Anton was so busy buiding in the Warsaw area that he couldn't come and help build the home of his parents, Albert and Hedwig, so Tom Wilebski built it. He also built houses for Anton Szklarski (now owned by John Szklarski in Augsburg Townshp, Section 35), Joe Kuznia, and Mike Kuznia, Sr.

(now owned by Mike Kuznia, Jr. in Wright Township, Section 7). Anton also built a house for his brother, Bert, on Section 3 of Wanger Township. In 1944, this house was moved to Section 23 of Sinnott Township. The Emil Kuznia family now lives there.

Anton also built the John Silewski home, which is located straight west of Stephen on the North Dakota side of the Red River. Anton worked for John Silewski for twenty-three years during harvest time. As John's son, Tommy Silewski, recalls, Anton was the only man his father didn't yell at. The Kasprowicz and Silewski children fondly remember Anton because he always brought a big bag of candy for the children when he came to stay at their house. John Silewski was great for hunting, and he could tan any kind of hide. After he got the hide just right, Anton would then get to work making harnesses and shoes and any other things they needed made from leather.

From 1909 to 1914, during the winter months, Stanley Bajdek, Sr. was working in a lumber camp by Spooner, Minnesota, which is across the river from Baudette. Stanley asked his bosses, Joe and Jack Maloney from west of Stephen, if he could bring some Polish boys with him to work because he was lonely. There weren't any Polish people at the camp. The Maloneys said it was alright, so Mike, Joe, and Anton Kuznia came along with Stanley. Anton got the job of blacksmith, for which he got paid \$50 a month, with room and board. Mike and Stanley were teamsters, and Joe was a loader. They got \$35 a month. The camp was eight miles from Spooner, and there were about fifty to sixty men working. Stanley remembers that the food was very good, and they got plenty to eat, but they didn't get any lunches. Anton was the only blacksmith. He had so much work to do, he had to work in the evenings and Sunday so he could catch up.

Anton was also remembered for his knife making. He made knives for all the Kuznias and kept them sharp.

After his daughter, Leokadia, married John Kazmierczak, he made his home with them until his death on March 26, 1942, from internal bleeding following an unsuccessful operation in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

## **JOHN AND LEOKADIA [KUZNIA] KAZMIERCZAK**

Leokadia Kuznia is the only child of Anton and Mary (Wilebski) Kuznia. She was born December 7, 1903, at the home of her grandparents, Albert and Hedwig Kuznia. Her mother, Mary, died three weeks after her birth. As a baby, Leokadia lived with the Tom Wilebski family until Grandma Hedwig moved to Florian. Then she lived with Grandma until her death in 1925. Leokadia then went to live with her Uncle Mike and Aunt Elizabeth Kasprowicz for three years until her wedding in 1928.

On November 20, 1928, Leokadia married John Kazmierczak, the son of Mikolai and Lucy (Szczepaniak) Kazmierczak. (On records at the courthouse in Warren, Lucy's last name is also spelled Iczefaniak). John was born August 23, 1906. His brothers are Anton and Frank. Sister Zofia died as an infant. His mother was born in Wisconsin. She died in 1911, and Nick married Julia Borowicz. She was born in Minnok, Illinois. They had eight children: Joseph, Polly (Mrs. Peter P. Kuznia), Dorothy Rapacz, Raymond, Peter, Roman, Leonard, and a son who died at an early



age. John's father was born Novmeber 15, 1880, at Czenien, Poland. In February of 1901, he left Poland by way of Hamberg, Germany, on a vessel named "Grofvalder" and arrived at the port of New York about February 15. This information is taken from his application for citizenship on November 27, 1916.

Leokadia and John were married in Florian. The wedding feast was at the Mike Kasprowicz farm, with a dance at Florian. There was no priest at Florian, so the day before the wedding, the members of the wedding party went to Drayton, North Dakota, to have their confessions heard. Father John B. Gans of St. Stephen's parish came and married them.

They made their home on the present Roman Kuznia farm. After

a few years, Anton Kuznia and John built the house where John still lives.

They had ten children: Mickoli, Mary Ann, Lucy, Dory, John Jr., Timothy, Scholastica, Henry, Dorothy, and Anthony. When Tony, Henry, and Dorothy were children, they were chased by a bull. They ran to the barn and hid there until some adults came to rescue them. Henry was three years old when he tried to milk a cow. It didn't work; he ended up with a broken leg.

After having surgery to remove her leg, Leokadia died in February of 1965. John still lives in their farm home in rural Stephen, Minnesota, with his son, Mickeli.



John and Leokadia Kazmierczak Wedding -- 1928

[L-R] Edmund Kasprowicz, Constance [Kuznia] Zakrzewski, John E. Kuznia, Frances [Wilebski] Larson, Alozy Kuznia, Polly

[Kazmierczak] Kuznia, Anton Kazmierczak, Cecilia [Kasprowicz] Borowicz, John Kazmierczak, Leokadia [Kuznia] Kazmierczak, and Regina [Kuznia] Dombeck



John and Leokadia Kazmierczak Family

[Back L-R] Tim, John Jr., Scholastica, Mickoli, Lucy, Dory, Henry

[Front] John Sr., Anthony, Dorothy, Mary Ann, Leokadia



**MICKOLI KAZMIERCZAK**  
**Stephen, Minnesota**

Mickoli Kazmierczak was born in 1929, the first child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. For a number of years, Mickoli has been a special officer for all public doings in Florian. He was sworn in by the Marshall County Sheriff.

He farms with his brothers, Henry and Tony, and resides at the family farm home in rural Stephen with his father, John Sr.

Rosenfelt, and Judy Raherr. Her brothers are: Leonard, Edward, Sylvester, Mike, John Jr., and Ernest.



**John and Irene Kazmierczak, Jr. -- 1954**

**JOSEPH AND MARY ANN [KAZMIERCZAK] WALTER, JR.**  
**Route 1**  
**Clements, Minnesota 56224**

Mary Ann Kazmierczak was born in 1930, the second child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. On November 29, 1958, at Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota, she married Joseph Walter, Jr., the son of Joseph Sr. and Magdalena (Heiling) Walter. The Walter name is of German origin and means "woodworker"; Heiling is also German. Joseph was born in 1930. He has one sister, Mary Schunk, and his brother, Jerome, is married to Scholastica Kazmierczak, Mary Ann's sister.

Joseph and Mary Ann have seven children: Edward, Eugene, Bernard, Monica, Helen, Lois, and Grace.

**LUCY KAZMIERCZAK**

Lucy Kazmierczak was born in 1932, the third child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. She lived at the family home with her parents and brother, Mickoli.

Lucy was a very active member of the Assumption Ladies of Florian, taught C.C.D. classes, and for many years was called upon to be one of the main cooks at the local weddings. She was also a very active member of the P.N.A. Lucy helped out at many area homes, especially after the mother would come home with a new baby. Lucy died unexpectedly in 1978.

**DORY AND DARLENE [DEROSIER] KAZMIERCZAK**  
**15080 Oakhill Road North**  
**Marine on St. Croix, Minnesota 55047**

Dory Kazmierczak was born at home in 1933, the fourth child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. He graduated from Stephen High School in 1952 and then served in the U.S. Army.

On October 6, 1962, at St. Anthony's Church in Terrebonne, Minnesota, he married Darlene Derosier, the daughter of Joseph and Minne (LaCoursiere) Derosier. Both of Darlene's parents are of French descent. Darlene was born in 1940. She has three sisters: Bernice Valley, Noella Delorme, and Marcella Leydecker; and two brothers, Don and Herb.

Dory is employed as a mechanical designer. They have five children.



**John and Irene Kazmierczak Family -- 1978**  
**[Back L-R] Donald, Theresa, John, Thomas, Betty Ann**  
**[Second Row] Bernadette, Joann, Irene, Keith, Mary, Paulette**  
**[Front] Veronica and Robert**

**JOHN, JR. AND IRENE [WOINAROWICZ] KAZMIERCZAK**  
**Strandquist, Minnesota 56758**

John Kazmierczak, Jr. was born at home in 1934, the fifth child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. On October 25, 1954, he married Irene Woinarowicz, the daughter of John and Elizabeth (Megar) Woinarowicz. Both of Irene's parents are of Polish descent. Irene was born in 1936. Her sisters are: Cecelia Teske, Blanch Kostrzewski, Anna Mae Jeffery, Eleanor Kostrzewski, Martha Jeffery, Dorothy Hillestad, Marlene Bishop, Kay Kennedy, Phyllis



John and Irene have eleven children. On Easter Sunday, April 4, 1972, Paulette Ann was baptized by Bishop Kenneth Povish. She was the first baby baptized by a Bishop in Florian.

John and Irene make their home in Florian. They are both active in church and P.N.A. activities. John is employed by Richard Hvidsten, a Stephen farmer.

**CHARLES AND THERESA [KAZMIERCZAK] WALRATH**  
817 South Kendall  
Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701

Theresa Kazmierczak was born in 1955 to John and Irene (Woinarowicz) Kazmierczak. In 1973, she graduated from Stephen High School. On August 5, 1978, at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota, she married Charles Walrath, the son of Glen and Mary (Hardebeck) Walrath. Both of Charles' parents are of German descent. The name Walrath has several versions: Walrod, Wallerath, Wallreth, Wallradt, Walrodt, and Walrad. The Walrath family came from the Palatine section of Germany. The name means "stranger" because they were forced to move from Bavaria due to religious persecution. Charles has three brothers: Robert, James and Michael; and six sisters: Carolyn (who died June 7, 1946), Kathrin Hultberg, Patricia Kramer, Genevieve Pulczynski, Diane Vanusek, and Margret Desellier.

Theresa is employed at the Occupational Development Center at Thief River Falls, Minnesota, and Charles is the principal at St. Bernard's Catholic School in Thief River Falls.



Charles and Theresa Walrath

**GLENN AND JOANN [KAZMIERCZAK] ROBERTS**  
Anaheim, California

Joann Kazmierczak was born in 1959, the third child of John and Irene (Woinarowicz) Kazmierczak. In 1977, she graduated from Stephen High School. On April 19, 1980, at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, she married Glenn Richard Roberts, the son of T.G. and Gloria Roberts of Beulah, North Dakota.

Joann and Glenn are 1979 graduates of the North Dakota State School of Science in Wahpeton, North Dakota. They make their home at Anaheim, California.

**TIMOTHY AND MARCELLA [NOWACKI] KAZMIERCZAK**  
Route 1  
Thief River Falls, Minnesota 56701

Timothy Kazmierczak was born in 1935 at home, the sixth child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. He served in the U.S. Army. On April 27, 1963, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Alma, Minnesota, he married Marcella Nowacki, the daughter of Arnold and Theresa (Przekwas) Nowacki. Both of Marcella's parents are of Polish descent. Marcella has three brothers: Mark, Robert, and John; and three sisters: Arnette Borowicz, Delores St. Germain, and Suzanne.

Tim and Marcella have six children: Arnold, Connie, Deborah, Scott, Wayne, and Brian. Marcella is the owner of "The Place -- Marcie's Cafe". It is located along Highway 59 North entering Thief River Falls, Minnesota. It also has a roller skating rink.

**JEROME AND SCHOLASTICA [KAZMIERCZAK] WALTER**  
271 East Haskell  
West St. Paul, Minnesota 55118

Scholastica (Sally) Kazmierczak was born in 1936 at home, the seventh child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. She graduated in 1955 from Stephen High School. On November 30, 1957, at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, she married Jerome Walter, the son of Joseph Sr. and Magdalena (Heiling) Walter. Both of his parents are of German descent. The name Walter means woodworker. Jerome has one sister, Mary Schunk, and two brothers, Jim and Joseph Jr., who is married to Mary Ann Kazmierczak, Sally's sister.

They have three children: Bernadette, Bonnie, and Keneth. Bernadette won first place in 1977 in the regionals of accounting and related II and business arithmetics, for which she received a trophy. She also won sixth place in the state competition for accounting, for which she received a plaque. Bonnie won first place on an essay in the eighth grade in St. Michael's School. Keneth received a plaque for outstanding achievement in 1978-79; he also received a plaque for basketball champions in 1979.

**HENRY AND JOANN [LUBARSKI] KAZMIERCZAK**  
Stephen, Minnesota

Henry Kazmierczak was born in 1938 at home, the eighth child of John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. On September 7, 1960, at St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Argyle, Minnesota, he married Joann Lubarski, the daughter of Frank and Frances (Jankowski) Lubarski. Both of Joann's parents are of Polish descent. She has one brother, John, who is married to Veronica Pietruszewski.

Henry and Joann have four children: Patricia, Susan, Michael, and Francine. Henry farms with his father and brothers, Mickoli and Tony. Joann works for Arctic Enterprises in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.



**GERALD AND DOROTHY [KAZMIERCZAK] LAUNDRY**  
2167 Roblyn  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55104

Dorothy Kazmierczak was born in 1940 at Drayton, North Dakota, in Walsh County, to John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. She graduated in 1958 from Stephen High School. On June 22, 1963, at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota, she married Gerald Laundry, the son of Arthur and Lumena (Gagnan) Laundry. Both of Gerald's parents are of French descent. Gerald has three sisters: Jennette Hayne, Eva Mae Pederson, and Arabette Morrisette. He also had twin brothers, Clarence and Lawrence, who are both deceased. Gerald also had a twin brother, Jerome, who died at birth.

Dorothy and Gerald have four children: Michael, Kevin, Ann Marie, and Robert. Gerald has a commercial pilot's license.

**ANTHONY AND BONITZ [SCHMITZ] KAZMIERCZAK**  
Strandquist, Minnesota 56758

Anthony Kazmierczak was born in 1942 at Crookston, Minnesota, Polk County, to John and Leokadia (Kuznia) Kazmierczak. He played football while in high school, and in 1959, the team went to district conference. He graduated from Stephen High School in 1960.

On September 4, 1973, at St. Joseph's Catholic Church in Red Lake Falls, Minnesota, he married Bonita Schmitz, the daughter of Theodore and Leona (Hoefer) Schmitz. She has four brothers: Delbert, Daniel, Theodore Jr., and Thomas; she also has four sisters: Veronica (Mrs. Frank Kasprovicz), Pauline (Mrs. Clarence Kuznia), Ruth deNiord, and Dolores.

Tony and Bonita have five children: Jeffrey, Juanita, Carol Jean, and twin boys, Paul and Philip. They make their home in rural Strandquist, and Tony farms with his brothers, Henry and Mickoli.



**Anthony and Bonita Kazmierczak Family -- 1980**  
[Back L-R] Bonita holding Paul, Tony holding Philip  
[Front] Juanita, Carol, and Jeffrey