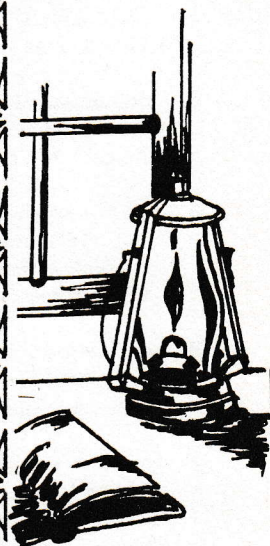


# VINGENT AND WANDA KUZNIA





# *Family Tree of Vincent and Wanda Kuznia*

VINCENT KUZNIA b-1893, d-1955  
to  
WANDA GRATZEK b-1896

## 1. Valerian Kuznia b-1917 to Loretta Price b-1919

### A. James J. Kuznia b-1946 to Ione Voytilla b-1946

- 1) Jeffrey Kuznia b-1968
- 2) Janelle Kuznia b-1971
- 3) Jeremy Kuznia b-1976
- 4) Julie Kuznia b-1979

### B. Philip Kuznia b-1947 to Sarah Blazek b-1952

- 1) Kelly Katheryn Kuznia b-1975
- 2) Kevin Kuznia b-1977

### C. Valerie Kuznia b-1948 to Michael Blazek b-1946

- 1) Pamela Blazek b-1969
- 2) Donovan Blazek b-1971
- 3) Jonathan Blazek b-1972

### D. Thaddeus Kuznia b-1950 to Kathy Duray b-1952

- 1) Tammas Kuznia b-1974
- 2) Joel Kuznia b-1977
- 3) Jesse Kuznia b-1980

### E. Henry Kuznia b-1952 to Cynthia Eidelbes b-1953

- 1) Chad Kuznia b-1975
- 2) Tina Kuznia b-1978

### F. Valerian Kuznia, Jr. b-1954 to Charlene Ciekliniski b-1957

- 1) Braden Kuznia b-1977
- 2) Jenessa Kuznia b-1980

### G. Joan Kuznia b-1956 to Aime Dufault b-1954

- 1) Michel Dufault b-1976
- 2) Melanie Dufault b-1978
- 3) Sara Dufault b-1980

### H. Judith Kuznia b-1957 to Dwaine Adolphson b-1952

- 1) Carl Adolphson b-1977
- 2) Keith Adolphson b-1980

## 2. Evelyn Kuznia b-1920 to Thomas Kujava b-1912

### A. Mark Kujava b-1948 to Lonnie Walz b-1947

- 1) Markelle Kujava b-1971
- 2) Johnathan Kujava b-1974

### B. Gary Kujava b-1949 to Susan Adamski b-1955

- 1) Heidi Kujava b-1977
- 2) Kimberly Kujava b-1979

### C. David Kujava b-1950 to Linda Kurowski b-1950

- 1) Christopher Kujava b-1970
- 2) Chad Kujava b-1974
- 3) Heather Kujava b-1979

### D. Thomas Kujava, Jr. b-1951 to Leatrice Walz b-1949

- 1) Matthew Kujava b-1979

### E. Gregory Kujava b-1960

## 3. Edmund Kuznia b-1921 to Annie Woinarowicz b-1919

### A. Josephine Kuznia b-1944 to Wallace Woehrle b-1945

- 1) Michael Woehrle b-1969
- 2) Matthew Woehrle b-1976

### B. Gordon Kuznia b-1945 to Mary Blommel b-1949

- 1) Jackie Ann Kuznia b-1970
- 2) Jeremy Kuznia b-1976

### C. Lorraine Kuznia b-1949 to Steven Johnson b-1949

- 1) Sean Johnson b-1972
- 2) Shayne Johnson b-1973

### D. Maxine Kuznia b-1951 to Michael Vaneps b-1950

- 1) Kimberly Vaneps b-1978

### E. Bernadette Kuznia b-1953 to Darrell Peterson b-1951

- 1) Carrie Ann Peterson b-1971

### F. Adeline Kuznia b-1954

- 1) Joshua Kuznia b-1975

### G. Edmund Kuznia, Jr. b-1957

### H. Jeanette Kuznia b-1958

### I. Anthony Kuznia b-1963

## 4. Bernard Kuznia b-1923, d-1959 to Emily Gryskiewicz b-1926

### A. Dale Kuznia b-1948 to Mary Wikoff b-1949

- 1) Brandon Kuznia b-1972
- 2) Elissa Kuznia b-1974
- 3) Matthew Kuznia b-1976
- 4) Kara Kuznia b-1979

### B. Marlys Kuznia b-1950 to Thomas Kittelson b-1949

- 1) Katie Kittelson b-1974
- 2) Samuel Kittelson b-1977

### C. Sandra Kuznia b-1952 to Timothy Kasprowicz b-1951

Emily Gryskiewicz Kuznia to Adrian Dolney

## 5. Ambrose Kuznia b-1926 to Antoinette Borowicz b-1927

### A. Francis Kuznia b-1950 to Marcia Bye b-1953

- 1) Aaron Kuznia b-1975
- 2) Jonathan Kuznia b-1977

### B. Rita Kuznia b-1952 to Richard Kasprowicz b-1944, d-1977

(This family is also in the Michael & Elizabeth Kasprowicz section)

- 1) Tracy Kasprowicz b-1970
- 2) Jennifer Kasprowicz b-1974

### C. Timothy Kuznia b-1954 to Patricia Paulson b-1953

- 1) Holly Kuznia b-1979

### D. Barbara Kuznia b-1957 to Daniel Renstrom b-1955

### E. Petronella Kuznia b-1960



**F. Paulette Kuznia b-1963**

**G. Scott Kuznia b-1969**

**6. Ludvine Kuznia b-1928 to Conrad Gryskiewicz b-1921**

**A. Janice Gryskiewicz b-1949 to Roger Rybaski b-1942**

- 1) Rachael Rybaski b-1974
- 2) Gabriel Rybaski b-1976
- 3) Michael Rybaski b-1978
- 4) Angeline Rybaski b-1980

**B. Roger Gryskiewicz b-1951 to Colleen Spjut b-1951**

- 1) Ryan Gryskiewicz b-1978

**C. Donna Gryskiewicz b-1960**

- 1) Christopher Gryskiewicz b-1979

**7. Vincent Kuznia, Jr. b-1932 to Lila Torkelson b-1930**

**A. Cynthia Kuznia b-1953 to Rick Matthews b-1952**

**B. Jeffrey Kuznia b-1956 to Donis Boss b-1942**

**C. Kenneth Kuznia b-1957**

**D. Sheryl Kuznia b-1960**

**8. Hilary Kuznia b-1935 to Julianna Dostal b-1941**

**A. Mary Kuznia b-1966**

**B. Charlette Kuznia b-1970**

**C. Vincent Kuznia b-1971**

**D. Vernon Kuznia b-1977**

**E. Dennis Kuznia b-1978**



# Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia

Vincent Kuznia was born August 13, 1893, in Wright Township, Marshall County, Minnesota, to Albert and Hedwig (Krzyszosiak) Kuznia. At that time, the family lived in a log house which was dismantled when the new house was built in 1912. As a child and young man, he helped his parents on their farm.

Transportation in Vincent's early manhood was either by foot or horse. Once, while returning home from seeing his bride-to-be, he was walking across country. It was dark, and just as he was crossing a fence, a prairie chicken flew up. He was frightened and hurried so fast he left part of his best suit on the fence.

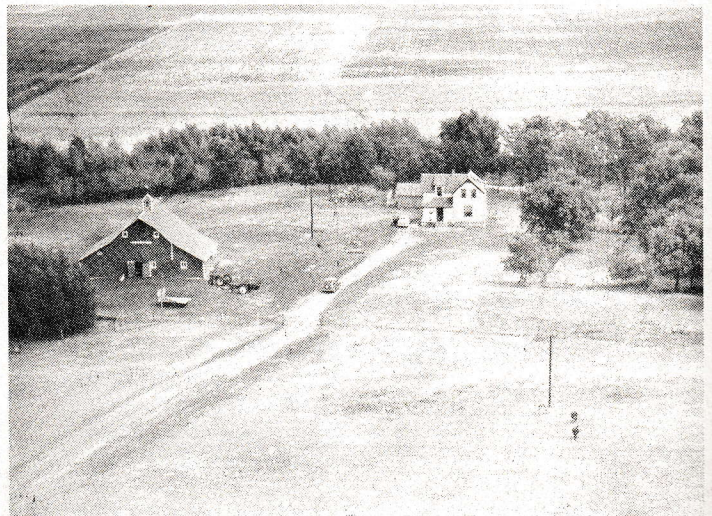
Vincent married Wanda Gratzek in the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota, on November 21, 1916. Father Anthony Drevinicki officiated at the ceremony. The day was cold and cloudy, but there was no snow. After the wedding, they made their home on the Kuznia farm, which was given to him, as he was the youngest son. They raised grain, hogs, sheep, and cattle. They were blessed with six boys: Valerian, Edmund, Bernard, Ambrose, Vincent Jr., and Hilary; and two girls: Evelyn and Ludvine. Besides taking care of the growing family, Wanda was a big help to her husband, often working in the field and milking cows. She also raised turkeys, geese, and ducks.

Along with all the good times, Vincent and Wanda had their share of hardships. In 1918, the big flu epidemic hit the Florian

community. At that time, Vincent's unmarried brothers, Joe and Ben, were living with them. Joe and Ben had gone to help do chores for their sick neighbors, and both Vincent and Wanda were taken sick, so Joe was called home. On returning home, he found no bread in the house, so he decided to bake. The bread turned so hard no one could eat it.

In November of 1929, they proudly bought their first car. It was a Model "A" Ford town sedan, which cost about \$750. Being one of the first cars in the community, Vincent was often asked to take relatives to the doctor in Crookston, Minnesota, or Drayton, North Dakota. When you took ten gallons of cream to town, you could buy enough groceries to fill the back seat of the car, put five gallons of gas in the car, and then go to the tavern for a big glass of beer, which cost five cents.

They farmed with horses until 1935. That year, they bought a new tractor for \$300 and a new three-bottom plow for \$140. As a trade-in, they traded a horse for which they received \$100. Fuel or distillate at that time cost five cents a gallon.



**Vincent and Wanda Kuznia farm yard**  
**[formerly the Albert and Hedwig Kuznia homestead]**



**Vincent and Wanda Kuznia -- 1916**

One nice evening in the winter of 1941, Vincent and his sons, Edmund and Ambrose, were to go to Ben Kuznia's and listen to the Joe Louis fight. Instead of going, they decided to listen to the radio in their Dodge car, which was parked in the garage behind the house. When the fight was over, they were surprised to see that a blinding snow storm had come up. The garage is only thirty feet from the house, and if it hadn't been for a lantern light shining through the kitchen window, they would never have made it to the house. Wanda was surprised to see them. She thought they were safe at Ben's.

On July 13, 1943, a big wind storm hit the Kuznia farm. It turned over the threshing machine and twisted the log barn, which was built in 1888. (This barn is still used today as a hog farrowing shed.) After the storm, Vincent was checking the barn when he fell down a chute in the hayloft. He was laid up with broken ribs and bruised.

In January of 1944, Vincent and Wanda decided to take a vacation to Detroit, Michigan, for a couple of months. They could leave the farm, as Edmund and his wife were there to help run it.

Even though one had a tractor, you had horses to help make hay, clean the barn, etc. One day, Vincent went into the barn, and a



horse, which had been a cripple, was lying and couldn't get up. He decided to walk to the front of the manger to unsnap the horse's halter. While walking to the front, the horse started kicking. Vincent was caught off guard and was kicked back and forth. He received a broken collar bone and many bruises. The next day, his brother, Ben, decided it was time to shoot the horse.

When the P.N.A. was started in 1946, the Vincent Kuznia family were the first members.

On August 6, 1950, Vincent and three of the boys decided to go blueberry picking east of Wannaska, Minnesota. On their way home, they stopped at the Englund store for a six-pack of beer. When Vincent brought the beer to the counter, Frank Banaszewski told him, "Vincent, I don't think you'd better buy that beer. You can't afford it." They soon found out what he meant when he told them that while they were gone berry picking, a hail storm had come and taken all the crops. They had no hail insurance.

In October of 1955, Vincent was involved in a car accident. He

was taken to the hospital in Crookston, Minnesota, where he remained until he died on November 5. He was 62 years old at the time.

Wanda was born November 11, 1896, to John and Valerie (Schufletowski) Gratzek in Wright Township, Marshall County, Minnesota. Both of her parents came from Poland; John at the age of seventeen, and Valerie when she was eight. They lived to celebrate their 53rd wedding anniversary. John died June 14, 1929, and Valerie died July 3, 1939. Wanda's sisters are: Salomae (Mrs. Joseph Gajeski), Lucy (Mrs. Albert Wanderski), Angie (Mrs. William Borowicz), Praxsada (Mrs. Martin Yutzenka), Mary (Mrs. Anton Budziszewski), Emelia (Mrs. Joseph Przybylski), Kathryn (Mrs. Andrew Rominski). Wanda's brothers are: Dr. Thomas, who married Theresa Olyczniak; John, who married Stella Przybylski; and Dr. Frank, who married Mary Wienglinski.

Wanda is proud to say that she has 44 grandchildren and over 50 great grandchildren. She lives in her own home on the Kuznia homestead, Route 1, Box 137, Stephen, Minnesota 56757.



Vincent and Wanda Kuznia Family -- 1951  
 [Standing L-R] Valerian, Ambrose, Vincent, Edmund,  
 Hilary and Bernard  
 [Seated] Ludvine, Vincent, Wanda, and Evelyn



**VALERIAN AND LORETTA [PRICE] KUZNIA, SR.**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

Valerian Sylvester Kuznia, oldest son of Vincent Kuznia and Wanda Gratzek, was born December 31, 1917, on the original Kuznia homestead in Wright Township of Marshall County.

As a boy, I walked to country school in Florian. Once, when my folks went visiting, Evelyn and I were boiling candy, and I smelled it to see if it was burning. I stuck my nose in too far and burned it on the fudge. I ran out and got snow and held it to my nose, but despite my efforts, I had a large blister on my nose in the morning. That morning, Ma said to Dad, "You'd better haul the kids to school from now on because look how this boy froze his nose walking from school yesterday." The folks never did find out what really happened to my nose.

As a young man, I helped my dad with his farming, until I enlisted in the Armed Forces in 1941. I was sent overseas to the Aleutian Islands, Alaska, in 1942 and spent the next two years there. Following my overseas duty, I was given a two-week leave. It was during that time that I asked Loretta Irene Price, daughter of John and Antoinette, to be my bride. We were married on June 20, 1944. We lived in Riverside, California, for six months, as I was stationed at Camp Haan. I completed my five years of service in 1945, following a year's duty in the Philippine Islands.

In 1946, I bought our farm in Wright Township. I started farming with nine milking cows and four heifers. An old log barn was used until 1952, when I expanded and bought the barn presently on the farm. The year 1948 was when we first got electricity on the farm. We had the first yard light in Wright Township.

Loretta, James, our oldest son, and I milked twenty cows by hand until 1963, when I bought a milking machine and bulk tank. After this, we milked over thirty cows.

Times were hard, so Loretta, the oldest children, and I had to work together. There was wood to cut and haul, water to carry, snow to melt until we were able to modernize the house. During the hard winters, while the older children went to country school, my brother

Edmund, and I often had to pick them up with horses and a sleigh.

While my sons were at home, with their help I was able to run a big pig operation. I was forced to sell the pigs in 1974 following a heart attack. Most of my sons were gone from home at this time. I continued in the dairy business until 1976, when I sold all my livestock. In 1978, I sold 160 acres of land to my youngest son, Valerian, Jr., who is presently helping me farm.

In 1980, we celebrated our 36th anniversary. To this union, eight children were born: James, Philip, Valerie, Thaddeus, Henry, Valerian Jr., Joan, and Judith. Our children have made us very happy by blessing us with twenty-one grandchildren.

**JAMES AND IONE [VOYTILLA] KUZNIA**  
Stephen, Minnesota 56757

On August 22, 1946, James John Kuznia was born to Loretta (Price) and Valerian Kuznia, Sr. at Warren, Minnesota, in Marshall County.

James graduated from the Argyle Public School in 1964. After graduation, he farmed with his father until 1968, when he became employed with Francis DeLisle in construction work.

In 1976, he and Philip started a construction business called Kuznia Builders, which is still operating.

James joined the National Guard unit in Thief River Falls in 1964. This was for six years. He spent his basic training in Fort Jackson, South Carolina.

On October 28, 1967, he married Ione Yvonne Voytilla at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian. She is the daughter of Theodore and Mabel (Olson) Voytilla. She has two brothers: Earl and Darrell Voytilla.

After their marriage, they lived at rural Argyle for six years. At this time, James built a house of his own near Stephen. This is where they live now.



**Valerian and Loretta Kuznia Family -- 1976**  
[Back L-R] Philip, Ted, James  
[Middle] Henry, Valerie, Judith, Joan  
[Front] Valerian Sr., Loretta, Valerian Jr.



**James and Ione Kuznia Family -- 1979**  
[Children L-R] Janelle, Julie, Jeremy, and Jeffrey



James and Ione have four children, all of whom were born at Thief River Falls, Minnesota. They are as follows: Jeffrey James, born July 23, 1968; Janelle Marie, born January 24, 1971; Jeremy Marc, born January 6, 1976; and Julie Beth, born April 12, 1979.

**PHILIP AND SARAH [BLAZEK] KUZNIA**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

On October 17, 1947, Philip Thomas Kuznia, the second son of Valerian, Sr. and Loretta (Price) Kuznia, was born at the Warren Hospital in Marshall County.

My first three years of school, I attended District 50 country school, after which I went to Argyle Public School and graduated in 1965. I attended Northland Junior College in Thief River Falls for two years and graduated in 1967. After graduation, I was employed at Arctic Enterprises, Inc., as a welder.

I enlisted in the army on May 20, 1968, for three years. I took my basic training at Ft. Lewis, Washington. I received the highest training score in the battalion, and at graduation, I was presented with a trophy for being an outstanding trainee. I was transferred to Fort Ord in California, Fort Carson in Colorado, and Fort Rucker in Alabama, where I received 13 months of training before leaving for the Republic of Vietnam on August 17, 1969. In Vietnam, I was stationed at Can Tho in the Mekong Delta, where I was a flight operations coordinator in an assault helicopter company. I was awarded the Army Commendation Medal, Air Medal with two oak leaf clusters, Flight Wings, and Bronze Star before returning home November 14, 1970, with 15 months and 8 days of duty served in Vietnam.



**Philip and Sarah Kuznia Family -- 1979**  
[L-R] Sarah, Kevin, Kelly, Philip

On June 5, 1971, I was married to Sarah Blazek at the Blessed Sacrament Catholic Church in Greenbush, Minnesota. Sarah is the daughter of Jerrie and Hilda (Thompson) Blazek of Greenbush, Minnesota. She has seven sisters: Mrs. Eldon (Shelva) Harbott, Mrs. Arthur (Elizabeth) Seydel, Mrs. James (Jennifer) McDonald, Ann Marie Blazek, Mrs. Robert (Deborah) Berger, Mrs. Vernon (Carrie) Stusynski, and Mrs. Wayne (Mary Jo) Cummins and four brothers: Jerome, Charles, Michael, and Robert. Sarah's parents are of Bohemian and Norwegian descent. Her parents farmed in Barnett Township near Greenbush.

After our marriage, I was employed with Borowicz Construction and Witcher Construction until May of 1976, when James and I started our own construction company called Kuznia Builders, where I am still working.

We lived in Grand Forks, North Dakota, for the first 1½ years of our marriage, and then we bought a house in Warren and moved there in September of 1973. In the spring of 1977, we bought 5.6 acres of land in Section 30 in Wright Township from my parents. That summer, James and I built our new home, where we are now living.

We were blessed with the adoption of our two children: Kelly Kathryn, born January 22, 1975, and arrived at our home October 25, 1975, and on January 20, 1978, we received our son, Kevin Philip, who was born November 10, 1977.

**MICHAEL AND VALERIE [KUZNIA] BLAZEK**  
Walhalla, North Dakota

On November 16, 1948, I, Valerie Kuznia, was born to my proud parents, Valerian Kuznia, Sr. and Loretta Price.

I attended the Argyle Public School, from which I graduated in 1966. In September of 1966, I moved to Thief River Falls and attended business college for one semester. I was then employed by Northwestern Hospital in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, as a nurse's aide until I began my nurse's training. On August 28, 1968, I graduated as a Licensed Practical Nurse. I was employed as an L.P.N. at Northwestern Hospital until May of 1969.

On June 7, 1969, I married Michael Blazek, son of Jerrie Blazek and Hilda Thompson of Greenbush, Minnesota. Michael has three brothers: Jerome, Charles (deceased), and Robert. His eight sisters are: Shelva, Elizabeth, Jennifer, Ann, Deborah, Sarah, Carrie, and Mary.

After our marriage at the Assumption Catholic Church at Florian, Minnesota, we moved to Mayville, North Dakota, where Michael was employed as a policeman.

On October 2, 1969, I gave birth to our daughter, Pamela. Our son, Donovan, was born January 15, 1971, in Mayville, North Dakota, and Jonathan was born May 29, 1972, in Greenbush, Minnesota.

We moved to Badger, Minnesota, in 1971, and resided there for five years. While living in Badger, I was employed at the Greenbush Community Hospital, and Michael was employed as a county deputy.

On July 5, 1976, we moved to Walhalla, North Dakota, where we presently live. My husband is a sales representative for Pro Sales, Inc., and I am employed by the Pemblier Nursing Center.

When I think of my childhood, some memories are special to me. The only memory that I have of Grandpa Vincent Kuznia is how he would hold my brother, Ted, and me on his lap in the big wooden rocker and sing to us in Polish. His favorite song or story was always about a rabbit.

Also, I vaguely remember when James and Philip greased my face and hair with Dad's grease gun after Ma had us dressed for church. Ma dressed us early and went to help Dad finish the chores because they were in a hurry to get to confession.





**Michael and Valerie Blazek Family -- 1976**  
**[L-R] Pamela, Michael, Jonathan, Donovan, Valerie**

Another time, I remember getting my metal hair curlers caught in the electric barbed wire fence when I was running after my brothers.

Most of all, I remember the sincerity in religion, hard work, and the responsibility that my parents, Valerian and Loretta, taught all of their children. Due to their love and devotion, we are still a strong, loving family unit.

**THADDEUS AND KATHY [DURAY] KUZNIA**  
**2127 Wyoming Avenue**  
**Billings, Montana**

Thaddeus Anthony Kuznia, son of Valerian Kuznia, Sr. and Loretta Price, was born at the Warren Hospital on July 16, 1959.



**Thaddeus and Kathy Kuznia Family -- 1978**  
**[Children L-R] Tammas and Joel**

I grew up in the Florian community, attending Argyle Public School and graduating in 1968. After graduation, I attended Northland Junior College in Thief River Falls for one year before joining the Army.

I married Kathy Duray, daughter of Sylvester and Arlaine (Peterson) Duray of Greenbush, Minnesota, on June 3, 1972, at St. Aloysius Parish of Leo, Minnesota. Kathy has four sisters: Susan, Alice, Annette, and Mary; and four brothers: Paul, Tom, Mike, and John. After our marriage, we made our home in Warren, Minnesota, where I was employed as an electrical lineman for the city.

We have three sons: Tammas Anthony, born February 25, 1974, Joel Sylvester born January 8, 1977, and Jesse, who was born in 1980.

In August of 1978, we moved to Billings, Montana, where we now make our home. I am employed as an electrical lineman by the Swain and Morris Construction Company. We belong to St. Pius Parish. Tammas attends kindergarten at Burlington School in Billings.

**HENRY AND CYNTHIA [EIDELBES] KUZNIA**  
**Coon Rapids, Minnesota**

Henry Allen Kuznia, son of Valerian Kuznia, Sr. and Loretta Price, was born in Warren, Minnesota, November 20, 1952.

I grew up on my parents' farm in Wright Township. I attended the Argyle Public Schools, graduating in 1971. In June of 1971, I joined the National Guard. After returning from the Guard, I was at home helping my dad with farm work.

I was married to Cynthia Eidelbes on April 26, 1975, at St. Bernard's Catholic Church in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. Cynthia is the daughter of John Eidelbes and Agnes Kliner of Goodridge, Minnesota. Cynthia has one sister, Nadine, and a brother, Darwin.



**Henry and Cynthia Kuznia Family**  
**[Children L-R] Tina [one year] and Chad [four years]**



After our marriage, we moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where I got a job with Acoustical Floors, Inc. In 1978, we built a home in Coon Rapids, where we are still living, and I'm still working at the same job.

We have a son, Chad Allen, born September 19, 1975, and a daughter, Tina Marie, born November 26, 1978.

**VALERIAN AND CHARLENE [CIEKLINSKI] KUZNIA, JR.  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713**

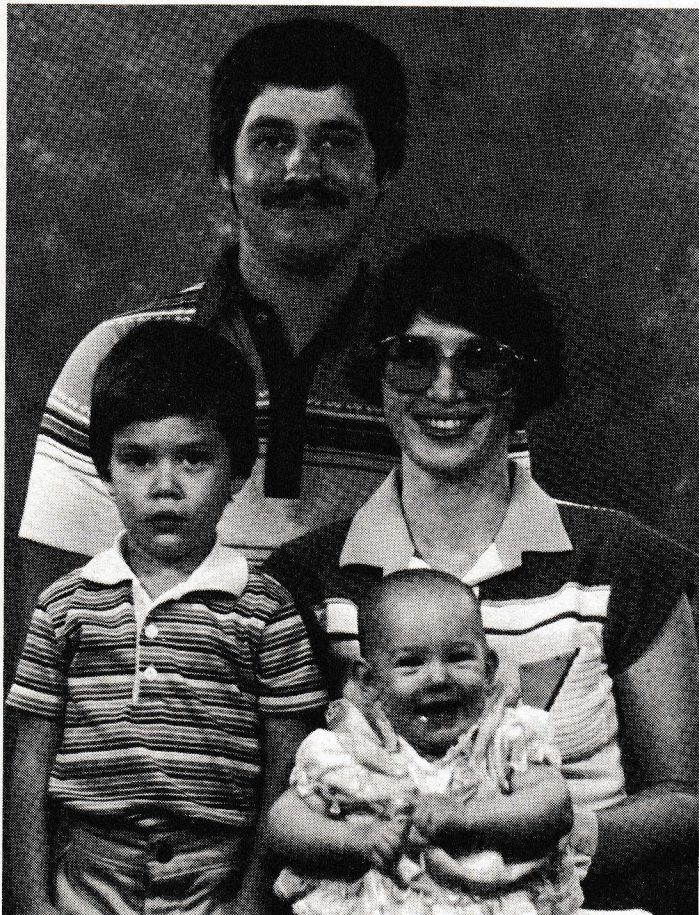
Valerian Wendell Kuznia, Jr., youngest son of Valerian Kuznia, Sr. and Loretta Price, was born September 20, 1954, at the Warren Hospital in Warren, Minnesota.

As a boy, I attended Argyle Public School along with my seven brothers and sisters. During the school year of 1963-64, James was a senior and Judy was in first grade. All eight of us would be getting ready for the bus in the morning for 7:30. What a rat race it was!

In high school, I played baseball and football and graduated in the spring of 1972. I then went to work in construction for Witcher Construction Company and later started working for Francis DeLisle of Stephen, Minnesota, as a carpenter, along with my brother, Jim. While working, I helped my father with farming and milking cows until he sold them in 1976.

In the fall of 1974 I started dating Charlene Ciekliniski, daughter of Frank Ciekliniski and Marcella Deschene. I always liked to tease her that the only reason I took her out was because the price of gas was getting so high that I couldn't afford to drive any farther than the two miles we lived from each other.

In 1975, I started raising hogs. On October 2, 1976, Charlene and I were married at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota. Charlene has one sister, Renee, and two brothers,



**Valerian, Jr. and Charlene Kuznia Family -- 1980  
[Children L-R] Braden and Jenessa**

Rodney and Donovan. That same fall, Jim and Phil started their own construction business, and I went to work for them.

On February 24, 1977, our oldest child, Braden Valerian, was born at the Warren Hospital. He was premature, only weighing 3 pounds 12 ounces, and was transferred to United Hospital in Grand Forks, North Dakota, where he stayed for three weeks.

In 1978, I bought 160 acres of land from my father and am now presently farming with him, raising hogs and working with Jim and Phil.

On January 6, 1980, Charlene gave birth to our second child, a girl, Jenessa Marie, at the Northwestern Hospital in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. It was during a snow storm also, just as it was when Braden was born. Now, watching our children grow, we know God has blessed us.

**AIME AND JOAN [KUZNIA] DUFALT  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713**

Joan Marie (Kuznia) Dufault was born in Warren, Minnesota, on March 4, 1956, to Valerian Kuznia, Sr. and Loretta (Price) Kuznia. I was the seventh of eight children born to this union.

I attended the Argyle Public School and was graduated with honors in May of 1974. In this last year of high school, I was bestowed with the honor of being crowned the Homecoming Queen of my school.



**Aime and Joan Dufault and Family -- 1978  
[L-R] Melanie, Aime, Joan, and Michel**

On July 27, 1974, I was married at the Assumption Catholic Church at Florian to Aime Joel Dufault of St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church in Argyle, Minnesota. Aime, born on May 11, 1954, is the fourth born to Morris Dufault and Delores (St. Germain) Dufault. The Dufaults are of French-Canadian descent and settled in the Argyle area in the late 1800's. Aime has two brothers: Ernest and Howard, and two sisters: DeLaine Strong and Karen Safranski.

The first two years of our marriage, we rented a farmstead near Argyle, as Aime was engaged in farming with his father. In the



spring of 1976, we bought our own farm in the township of Bloomer near Argyle. In 1978, we started the building of our new home on our farm, which was built by three of my brothers, James J., Philip, and Valerian, Jr.

Our first child, Michel James, was born to us on April 22, 1976. Our daughter, Melanie Joan, was born on August 7, 1978, and a second daughter, Sara, was born in 1980.

I am presently enjoying my life as a farmer's wife and mother of three young children.

**DWAINE AND JUDITH [KUZNIA] ADOLPHSON**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

Judith Ann Kuznia was the last born to Valerian, Sr. and Loretta Price on December 14, 1957, at the Warren Hospital in Warren, Minnesota.



**Dwaine and Judith Adolphson with son Carl**

I will always remember my days as a youngster on the farm. I loved to help out with the animals. We had pigs, milking cows, calves, chickens, cats, and dogs all at once.

I attended Argyle Public School and was a 1975 graduate. My last year of high school, my class went to Washington, D.C. During our trip, we saw most of the important sights of Washington, plus we visited Williamsburg, Virginia, and Gettysburg, Pennsylvania. It was a trip I will never forget. In June of 1975, I did a little more traveling with my brother, Ted, and his family. We traveled through Montana, Yellowstone National Park, and ended up in San Francisco, California. Soon after returning from my trip, I became an employee at the Argyle State Bank.



**Keith Alan Adolphson**  
Baptism in June of 1980

On June 19, 1976, I married Dwaine David Adolphson, son of Dale Adolphson and Natalie Kostrzewski, all of Argyle, Minnesota. We were married at the Assumption Catholic Church at Florian. Dwaine has two sisters and two brothers: Mrs. Conrad (Merece) Lubarski, Karla, Loren and Merle.

I gave birth to our son, Carl Dwaine, on June 27, 1977, at the Warren Hospital. Our second son, Keith Alan, was born June 17, 1980.

Dwaine is a partsman for Muzzy Farm Equipment and is also engaged in farming. I am now working hard at being a good mother and homemaker. We own a house in Argyle and are members of the St. Rose of Lima Catholic Church.

**THOMAS AND EVELYN [KUZNIA] KUJAV**  
Strandquist, Minnesota 56758

Evelyn Kuznia was the first daughter and second child born to Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia. She was born at their farm home in Wright Township, Marshall County, Minnesota, on January 28, 1920.

On April 15, 1947, in the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota, she married Thomas P. Kujava, the son of Peter and Katherine (Przybylski) Kujava. They are of Polish descent. Thomas has two brothers and four sisters: Harry, Evald, Antionette (Mrs. George Benke), Rufina, Gertrude (Mrs. Edmund Kasproicz), and Lorraine (Mrs. John Pietruszewski). Thomas was in the service for four years during World War II.

Thomas and Evelyn have lived on the farm and farmed in Nelson Park Township for 33 years. During this time, five sons were born to them. Mark is married to Lonnie Walz. Gary is married to Susan Adamski. David is married to Linda Kurowski. Thomas, Jr. is married to Leatrice Walz. Gregory is at present living at home and going to school. Two of their sons, Mark and Gary, served in the Vietnam War. Tom and Evelyn have eight grandchildren.



**Thomas and Evelyn Kujava Family -- 1977**  
[Standing L-R] David, Thomas Jr., Mark  
[Front] Gary, Thomas, Evelyn, Gregory





**Thomas and Evelyn Kujava Family with Grandma Wanda Kuznia**  
**[Standing L-R] David, Chad, Linda, Mark, Lonnie, Susan, Heidi**  
**Gary, Leatrice, Thomas Jr., and Gregory**  
**[Seated] Christopher, Johnathan, Thomas**  
**Grandma Wanda Kuznia, Evelyn, and Markelle .**

**MARK AND LONNIE [WALZ] KUJAVA**  
**Stephen, Minnesota 56757**

Mark Anthony Kujava, born January 10, 1948, at the Warren Hospital, is the first of five sons born to Thomas Kujava, Sr. and Evelyn (Kuznia) Kujava. Paternal grandparents are Peter Kujava and Katherine (Przybylski) Kujava. Maternal grandparents are Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia. Mark is a member of the Assumption Catholic Church of Florian, Minnesota.

He attended school at Strandquist, graduating in 1966. Following graduation, he did landscaping work in the Twin Cities. Mark served in the United States Army from 1968-70, spending one year in Vietnam as a radio relay carrier.



**Mark and Lonnie Kujava Family**  
**[Children L-R] Markelle and Johnathon**

June 27, 1970, Mark married Lonnie Walz, daughter of Otto Walz and Stella (Carlson) Walz of Stephen. We are now making our home in Augsburg Township, near Stephen, Minnesota. Mark is employed at the Donald Gryskiewicz farm near Argyle, Minnesota.

We have two children. Markelle Mischelle was born July 11, 1971, and a son, Johnathan Mark Anthony, was born April 2, 1974.

**GARY AND SUSAN [ADAMSKI] KUJAVA**  
**Strandquist, Minnesota 56758**

I, Gary Thomas Kujava, was born on September 14, 1949, to Thomas and Evelyn (Kuznia) Kujava in Warren, Minnesota.

I attended first grade at the country school located by Englund Store. I finished the rest of my schooling at Strandquist and was a member of the graduating class of 1967. I was drafted into the Army in April of 1969. I was stationed in Germany for nine months and served in the Vietnam war for ten months. In 1976, I started attending the Veteran's ag farm management course. I am at present working for H & S Manufacturing of Stephen.

On April 23, 1977, I was united in marriage to Susan Adamski at Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota. Susan is the daughter of Steve and Angeline (Ignaszewski) Adamski. She has four sisters: Sandra Bratlie, Sharon, Ann Marie, and Andrea Jo. Susan is presently working as a secretary at the Karlstad Clinic.



**Gary and Susan Kujava Family -- 1980**  
**[Children L-R] Heidi and Kimberly**

We have two daughters. Heidi Leigh was born September 27, 1977, and Kimberly Ann was born September 4, 1979. We live in a trailer house north of the Thomas Kujava, Sr. farm in Nelson Park Township.



**DAVID AND LINDA [KUROWSKI] KUJAVA**  
**Warren, Minnesota 56762**

David Kujava, the third son of Thomas and Evelyn (Kuznia) Kujava, was born at the Warren Hospital, Warren, Minnesota, on August 15, 1950. He attended Strandquist School and graduated in 1968.

David married Linda Kurowski, the daughter of Stanley and Adeline (Chwialkowski) Kurowski, on April 4, 1970, at St. Vincent de Paul Catholic Church in Osseo, Minnesota.

After their marriage, they made their home in Osseo for five years, where David was employed in the drywall business. While living there, two sons, Christopher and Chad, were born. In 1975, they moved to Florian, Minnesota. In May of 1978, David, Linda, and family moved into their new home by Warren, Minnesota. A daughter, Heather, was born in 1979.

David is employed as a drywall taper in Grand Forks, North Dakota.

**THOMAS AND LEATRICE [WALZ] KUJAVA, JR.**  
**Greenbush, Minnesota**

I, Thomas Kujava, Junior, was born July 23, 1951, to Thomas and Evelyn (Kuznia) Kujava. I spent my younger years playing and

fighting with my four brothers, Mark, Gary, David, and Greg. When I was old enough to carry a pail, I helped my dad and brothers with daily milking and farm chores. I attended all 12 grades of school at Strandquist.

Some of my most enjoyable memories are left on the basketball courts! After graduation, I attended two years of school at Northland Community College. I then completed the auto body course at Thief River Falls Vocational School.

I married Leatrice (Cooky) Waltz, daughter of Otto and the late Stella Walz, on June 30, 1973. Cooky's grandparents were Otto and Christine Carlson of rural Strandquist and Albert and Anna Walz of rural Karlstad. She has three sisters: Mrs. Mark (Lois) Hoper, Mrs. Mark (Lonnie) Kujava, and Mrs. Timothy (Leone) Renstrom, and one brother, Lyle.

After we were married, we moved to Greenbush, Minnesota. Cooky taught school in Badger, Minnesota, and I worked at a body shop for a year. I then bought my own shop in Greenbush, which I am still operating. Cooky teaches kindergarten in Greenbush, also. We built a home one mile west of Greenbush in 1976.

We have one son, Matthew Evan. We adopted him in December of 1979. He was then 6½ months old. We aren't rich or famous, but we're happy and healthy and thankful for our son.

Stop and see us! The coffee's always on, and there may be a beer in the fridge!

**EDMUND AND ANNIE [WOINAROWICZ] KUZNIA**  
**Argyle, Minnesota 56713**

I, Edmund Matthew Kuznia, was born on September 21, 1921, in Wright Township, Marshall County, Minnesota, to Vincent J. Kuznia and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia. I am the third child in the family.

I attended rural school at Florian, Minnesota, for eight years. The next eight years I worked on my parents' farm.

On June 7, 1943, I married Annie Woinarowicz at St. Stephen's Catholic Church at Stephen, Minnesota. Annie is the daughter of George Woinarowicz and Agnes (Grembowski) Woinarowicz. Annie was born on January 22, 1919, in Eagle Point Township, Marshall County. She attended rural school at Eagle Point School. Annie has four brothers and five sisters. They are: Casmer, Gertrude, Martha, Sophie, Roman, Catherine, Florence, Joseph, and Carl.

We have nine children in our family. Josephine teaches school at Bloomington, Minnesota. Gordon is a construction contractor at Lake Crystal, Minnesota. Lorraine is employed at Olson Graphic Arts in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Maxine is employed at Sears Roebuck and Company at Minneapolis, Minnesota. Bernadette is self-employed at Valley Coverall Service, Inc., in Argyle, Minnesota. Adeline is employed by Wilkin County Group Home, Inc., in Breckenridge, Minnesota. Edmund, Jr. is self-employed in his duraclean service at Moorhead, Minnesota. Jeanette is employed at Mount Sinai Hospital in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Anthony is a student at Argyle Public High School in Argyle, Minnesota.

We moved to our farm in Section 19 of Wright Township in 1944. We raised grain and potatoes. In 1954, we started dairying on a larger basis. We installed the first bulk milk tank in this area. At the present time, we have a herd of forty cows and produce grade "A" milk.

We are members of the Assumption Catholic Church at Florian, Minnesota. I am a lector at church and a member of the parish church council.



[L-R] Anthony, Jeanette, Edmund Jr., Annie and Edmund Kuznia

**WALLACE AND JOSEPHINE [KUZNIA] WOEHRLE**  
**5800 11th Avenue South**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota 55417**

I was born Josephine Ann Kuznia to Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia in Warren, Minnesota, on May 19, 1944. I am their first born and eldest of their nine children.



My first six years of formal education were completed at Lindstrom Country School. I graduated from the Argyle High School in 1962 and attended Valley City State College in Valley City, North Dakota, where I graduated in 1966 with a bachelor of science degree in elementary education. I was homecoming queen at Valley City State in 1965. Upon graduation, I taught in the Robbinsdale school district for two years. I am currently teaching fifth grade in Bloomington, Minnesota, where I have been employed since 1969.

I was married to Wallace E. Woehrle on June 30, 1972, at Incarnation Catholic Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Wallace was born on September 27, 1945, to Ernest and Josephine Woehrle. They are of German and French descent. Wallace has three sisters and two brothers. Wallace is a University of Minnesota graduate and is employed by the Department of Economic Security at St. Paul, Minnesota.

We have two children. Michael James Woehrle was born on January 7, 1968, and Matthew John Woehrle was born on April 25, 1976.



**Wallace and Josephine Woehrle Family -- 1980**  
Children [L-R] Michael and Matthew

**GORDON AND MARY [BLOMMEL] KUZNIA**  
P.O. Box W  
Lake Crystal, Minnesota 56055

I was born Gordon Vincent to Edmund and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia on September 21, 1945, at Warren, Minnesota, in Marshall County. I attended grade school at District 50 in Wanger Township through the sixth grade. I then attended grades 7 through 12 at the Argyle Public High School, where I graduated in 1963.

I attended Valley City Teacher's College from 1963 to 1966, majoring in secondary education, mathematics major and science minor.

The summers of 1963 and 1964, I worked for George Haggart, an underground utility contractor out of Fargo, North Dakota.

The summer of 1965, I worked for Morris-Knutson Association out of Boise, Idaho, on the minuteman missile sites in northeastern

North Dakota.

In January of 1966, I joined the National Guard, taking my basic training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, the following summer.

In 1967, I started Kuznia Excavating, doing land clearing and farm drainage work. In January 1969, I decided to dissolve my business and move to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where I took a job as crane operator for Rocket Crane Service.

In June of 1970, I went to work for State Contracting, Slayton, Minnesota, as a construction foreman. State Contracting is an underground utility contractor in southwestern Minnesota.

In 1973, I resigned from my position at State Contracting to start my own business. I formed a corporation called G.M. Contracting, Inc., on May 25, 1973, which is primarily involved in municipal sewer, water, and street construction. We do most of our work in southwestern Minnesota and northern Iowa.

On August 30, 1969, I married Mary Blommel at St. Rosa, a small community in Stearns County about thirty miles northwest of St. Cloud. Mary was born on July 19, 1949, at Melrose, Minnesota, to Aloys Blommel and Madeline (Dickhaus) Blommel. She is of German descent. Mary has eight brothers and three sisters. They are: Arnie, Leroy, Herb, Ann, Dan, Joan, Jim, Bill, Ken, and Lisa.

We bought a mobile home and lived in Soderville, which is fifteen miles northeast of Anoka in Anoka County.

In 1973, we moved to Lake Crystal, Minnesota, where we based our business. Lake Crystal is a small community of about 2000 people located twelve miles southwest of Mankato, Minnesota.



**Gordon and Mary Kuznia Family**  
[L-R] Jackie, Mary, Gordon, and Jeremy

We have two children. Jackie Ann was born on January 30, 1970, in Blaine, Minnesota, and Jeremy Gordon was born January 10, 1976, in Mankato, Minnesota.

Some of the highlights of my life were when Mary and I toured eight European countries in 1973; starting my own business in 1973; and in 1975 when we purchased a farm and built a new home and office on the edge of Lake Crystal.

We enjoy traveling and have taken many winter vacations to various parts of the United States.



**LORRAINE GERTRUDE [KUZNIA] JOHNSON**  
75 West Logan  
West St. Paul, Minnesota 55119

I was born to Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia on January 5, 1949, in Warren, Minnesota. I am the third oldest child in the family.

I graduated from the Argyle High School in 1966. I attended St. Cloud State College in 1966-67, where I completed my freshman year. While in college, I was an active member of the Sigma Sigma Sigma Sorority.

In 1968, I moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, where I was employed at the J.C. Penney Company for four years as a sales audit clerk.

On May 15, 1971, I was married to Steven L. Johnson. We had two children. Their names are Sean Paul, who was born on February 10, 1972, and Shayne Phillip, who was born May 17, 1973.



**Lorraine Johnson with sons Sean and Shayne -- 1976**

I am currently employed at Olson Graphic Products, Inc., for the past four years. I work as a city desk sales person in the graphic arts department. While working there, I have taken several photography courses through the Inver Hills Junior College. Photography is my main hobby.

**MICHAEL AND MAXINE [KUZNIA] VANEPS**  
3904 29th Avenue South  
Minneapolis, Minnesota 55406

I was the fourth child born into the family of Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia. I was born at Karlstad, Minnesota, on March 14, 1951, and named Maxine Evelyn Kuznia.

I graduated from the Argyle Public High School in 1969. After graduation, I moved to Minneapolis, Minnesota, and am employed at Sears Roebuck and Company for eleven years.



**Michael and Maxine Vaneps with daughter Kimberly -- 1980**

On October 18, 1974, I was married to Michael Vaneps at Incarnation Catholic Church in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Michael was born January 23, 1950. He is the son of Arlene Vaneps and is of Swedish and Dutch ancestry. Michael is employed as an industrial foreman at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Stillwater, Minnesota.

On May 9, 1978, our first child was born. Her name is Kimberly Anne Vaneps.

**DARRELL AND BERNADETTE [KUZNIA] PETERSON**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

I was the fifth child born into the family of Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia. I am the "middle" child in the family. There are four older and four younger than me.

I was born on January 31, 1953, in Karlstad, Minnesota, and named Bernadette Sophie Kuznia. I graduated from the Argyle Public High School in 1971.

On February 20, 1971, I was married to Darrell Virgil Peterson at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota. Darrell is the son of Virgil L. Peterson and Rosalie (Jeffrey) Peterson. They are of Swedish and French ancestry, respectively. Darrell and I bought a small home in the city of Argyle shortly after we were married in 1971.

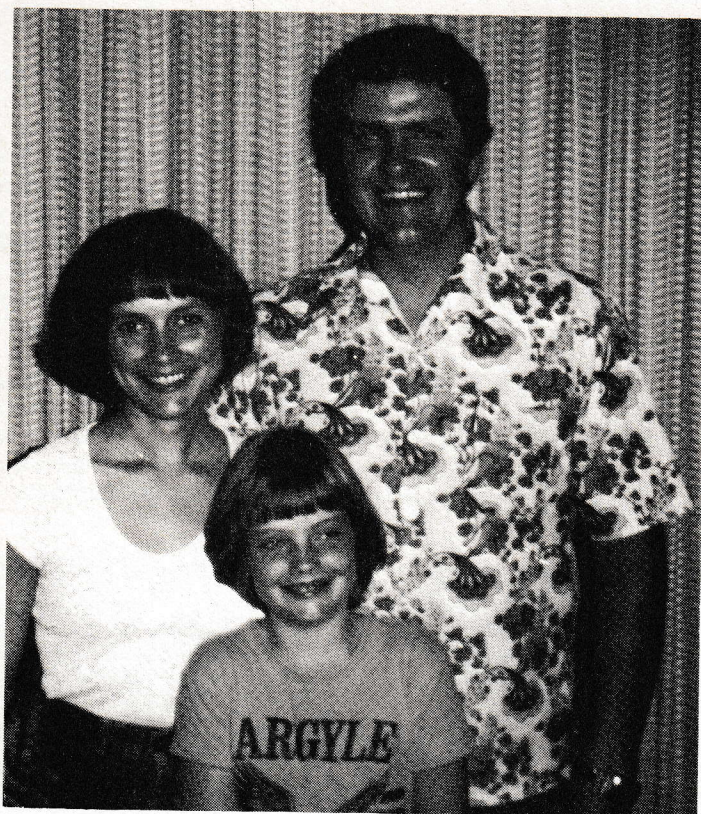
Darrell is the youngest child and only son of Virgil and Rosalie Peterson. Darrell was born on January 8, 1951, in Crookston, Minnesota, and graduated from the Argyle High School in 1969. Darrell has four sisters. Their names are: Arlene, Marlys, Nancy, and Pamela. Darrell was not in any branch of the military service.

We have one child. Our daughter, Carrie Ann, was born on December 15, 1971.

In April of 1977, we bought Valley Coverall Service, Inc. It is an industrial laundry service. We bought it from Darrell's father, who owned and operated the business for 18 years until his retirement. Together, Darrell and I manage the business and are self-employed there.



The main highlights in our lives took place mostly in 1971 when we were married, bought our house, and when our daughter, Carrie, was born. And in 1977 when we bought our business from Darrell's father.



**Darrell and Bernadette Peterson with daughter Carrie -- 1980**



**Adeline Kuznia with son Joshua**

**ADELINE LUDVINE KUZNIA**  
**910 Douglas Avenue North**  
**Breckenridge, Minnesota 56520**

I was born to Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia on September 24, 1954, at Karlstad, Minnesota, in Kittson County.

I graduated from the Argyle High School in 1972 and attended Moorhead State University in Moorhead, Minnesota, where I graduated with a bachelor of arts degree in sociology and a minor in social work.

I am presently employed at Wilkin County Group Home, Inc. in Breckenridge, Minnesota, and am currently the administrator of the home.

I have one son, Joshua, who was born October 8, 1975.

**EDMUND ANTHONY KUZNIA, JR.**  
**1805 20th Street, Apt. #5**  
**Moorhead, Minnesota 56560**

I was born to Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia in Karlstad, Minnesota, on January 17, 1957.

I attended elementary and high school at Argyle Public School, where I graduated in 1975.

I lived and farmed with my parents during the four years following high school.

In May of 1979, I moved to Moorhead, Minnesota, where I started "Eddie's Duraclean Service", a carpet and furniture cleaning business.

**JEANETTE ANTOINETTE KUZNIA**  
**3904 29th Avenue South**  
**Minneapolis, Minnesota**

I was the eighth child born to Edmund Kuznia and Annie (Woinarowicz) Kuznia on January 19, 1958, at Karlstad, Minnesota.

I graduated from Argyle High School in 1976. I attended the St. Cloud School of Nursing in St. Cloud, Minnesota, for one quarter.

In 1977, I moved to New Rochelle, New York, where I worked as a live-in governess for the Robert Warren family for one year. I then moved to Moorhead, Minnesota, where I worked as a computer operator for Blue Cross and Blue Shield of North Dakota.

I am currently residing in Minneapolis, Minnesota, and am employed at Mount Sinai Hospital as an admitting registrar and attending the University of Minnesota.



## BERNARD AND EMILY [GRYSKIEWICZ] KUZNIA

Bernard Kuznia was the fourth child of Vincent and Wanda Kuznia. Born September 19, 1923, on the original Vincent Kuznia homestead in Wright Township, he grew to manhood there. He came from a family of eight children.

Because the farm was some distance from Stephen, Bernard lived in town during the school year. After graduation in 1942, he entered the Marines. He then returned to his father's farm to help with farming.

On October 14, 1947, he married Emily Gryskiewicz, daughter of Andrew and Frances, at the Assumption Church in Florian. Emily had four brothers and one sister and grew up five miles from the Kuznia farm. Presently, two brothers are deceased: Roman, who was married to Mary Lasneski, and George, who was married to Marian Nelson. Frank married Emily Kurowski. Tony was married to Rose Ann Kuznia, and after her death married Bernice Anderson. Leona is married to Frank Vasek.

Bernard and Emily started farming in Augsburg Township, where he lived the remainder of his life. They had three children: Dale, Marlys, and Sandra. Their lives centered around church and family. Since both came from families in the area, there were always special occasions to attend.

On January 17, 1959, at the age of 35, Bernard died after falling from a haystack. He was buried at the Assumption Church with Father Ischler as the celebrant. He is well remembered for his cheerful disposition and love of children.



**Bernard Kuznia**

## ADRIAN AND EMILY [GRYSKIEWICZ KUZNIA] DOLNEY Greenbush, Minnesota

Grandma Gryskiewicz then moved in with Emily and the children. The land was rented out, and a normal household was maintained, with relatives coming to visit frequently. They remained on the farm until August 26, 1961, when Emily married Adrian Dolney, son of Albert and Stella, of Greenbush, and they moved to his farm at Greenbush. The children adjusted quickly to a new school and friends. Adrian also adjusted easily to his "instant" family and enjoys seeing the extended family in Stephen, also.

Presently, their three children are married, and Adrian and Emily are living ¼ mile north of his homeplace. They farm with Dale and Mary, who now live on Adrian's homeplace. Adrian and Emily are now taking more time to enjoy their six grandchildren and are taking occasional trips to Marlys' and Sandra's, or out of state to visit Adrian's relatives.



**Adrian and Emily Dolney Family -- 1979**  
[Standing L-R] Dale and Marlys  
[Seated] Emily, Sandra, and Adrian

## DALE AND MARY [WIKOFF] KUZNIA Greenbush, Minnesota

Dale Bernard Kuznia was born July 26, 1948, in Warren, Minnesota, to Bernard and Emily Kuznia. Dale grew up on his parents' farm in Augsburg Township with his two younger sisters, Marlys and Sandra. Dale attended grade school at the country school and went to Stephen for junior high. His family attended the Assumption Church at Florian.

When Dale was ten, his father died after a fall from a haystack. Grandma Frances Gryskiewicz moved in with the family, and their land was rented out. They stayed on the farm until August 26, 1961, when Dale's mother married Adrian Dolney and they moved to his farm seven miles northwest of Greenbush in Polonia Township. The children adjusted quickly to their new school and friends. In high school, Dale participated in basketball, football, FFA, choir, CYO, and the class plays.



After graduation in 1966, Dale then attended the University of Minnesota Technical College at Crookston, Minnesota, for two years, majoring in agriculture production. Dale then returned to Greenbush and started farming with Adrian. While in Crookston, Dale met Mary Wikoff, who he married August 14, 1971, at the Cathedral in Crookston.

Mary was born November 18, 1949, at Bemidji, Minnesota, to Howard and Bernice (Schmidt) Wikoff. When she was two, they moved to Crookston, where they have lived since, and where her father is an internist in the Northwestern Clinic. Mary was the fourth of eight Wikoff children. Her brothers and sisters are: the twins Judy (Wikoff) Haas and JoAnn (Wikoff) Hamm, Ted, Daniel, Christian, David, and Larry. They are all married, except the two youngest boys.

Mary attended the McKinley grade school and Crookston Central and graduated in 1967. In high school, Mary was in choir, was a pom-pom girl for basketball, was co-editor of the school newspaper, and was active in the Methodist Church youth group. After high school, she attended Macalester College in St. Paul for two years and then transferred to the University of Minnesota (Minneapolis campus) and graduated from there in 1971 with a B.A. in child psychology.

After their marriage in August of 1971, Dale and Mary moved to the St. Aloysius parish house, where they lived for five years. From 1972-74, Mary was employed by the Roseau County Social Services as a social worker. The work was very interesting, but she "retired" to stay home with her children and "work" for Dale. In the fall of 1976, they moved to Adrian's homeplace, where they continue to farm with Adrian and Emily. Their family farm corporation (D.K. Farms, Inc.) produces small grains, sunflowers, and feeder pigs.

Dale and Mary have four children: Brandon, Elissa (Ellie), Matthew, and Kara. Outside their farming activities, they all enjoy camping, fishing, snowmobiling, and visiting with neighbors and relatives. They are members of the St. Aloysius Church, Leo, Minnesota.



**Dale and Mary Kuznia Children -- 1979**  
[L-R] Elissa, baby Kara, Brandon, and Matthew

#### **THOMAS AND MARLYS [KUZNIA] KITTELSON** Sauk Centre, Minnesota

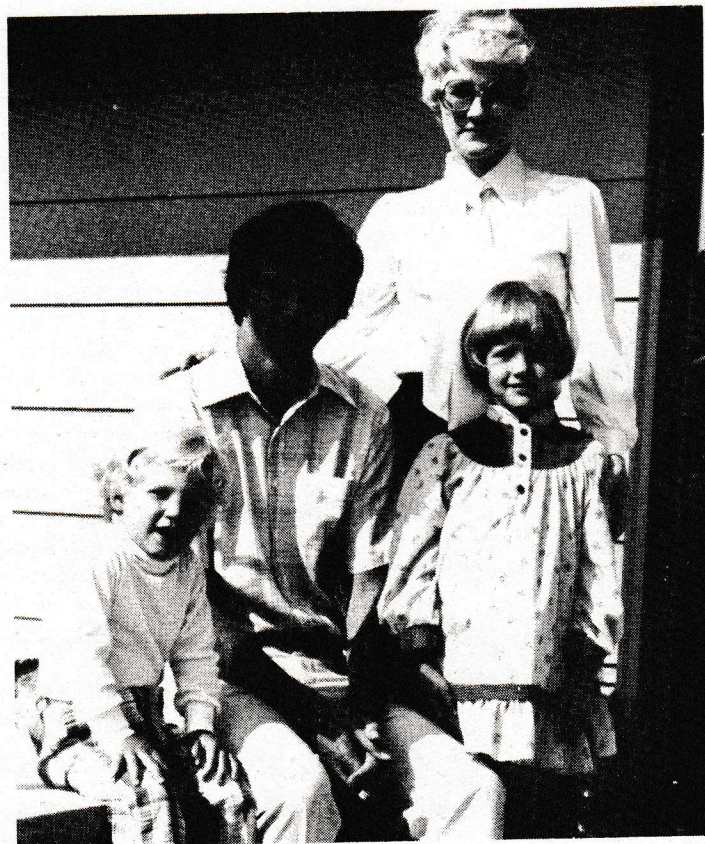
Marlys was born on a cold January 12, 1950, in the Warren Hospital to Emily and Bernard Kuznia. I was the second of three children. Dale is older, and Sandra is younger.

The first nine years of my life were without incident. I remember happy holidays at Grandma Wanda's, sneaking upstairs with the other cousins to play with Grandma's old hats or heading for the river, much to the distress of the parents. So it was a happy time. Of course, there was the time the bull almost mowed me down as I was guarding the grazing cattle, and the hair raising fights with Dale and Sandra, but I guess it built stamina.

I went to Englund country school for four years before Dad died. They were years of learning and play in a family environment. Dad's death in 1959 was an overwhelming experience, as I was sure it only happened to "other kids' dads". He was an easy man to love. He always had time for kids, and candy in his pockets. We entered Stephen Public School after that, requiring some adjustment. But relatives already there eased the transition. It was a difficult year for Mother. Dad died in January, and I was hospitalized in September at Karlstad. I was eventually transferred to Crookston for emergency bowel surgery. I remember feeling very special the night they moved me, as all the aunts and uncles came to see me. My bed was heaping with gifts, and Grandma Gryskiewicz was at the foot, saying the rosary. I was sure the illness was worth all the attention.

We moved to Greenbush in August, 1961, as Mom married my present father, Adrian Dolney. He is a dear man, and I'm proud of him. It took a lot of nerve to take on a wife and children instantly. I graduated from Greenbush in 1967. That fall, I entered St. Mary's Junior College and worked at St. Mary's Hospital in Minneapolis for five years after graduating as a registered nurse.

While in school, I met my husband, Thomas G. Kittelson. Tom, born June 24, 1949, is the son of Ione and Clarence of Goodhue, Minnesota. Tom is one of fourteen children, so holidays at the Kittelson's are much like they were at the Kuznia's when I was little. From the oldest to the youngest, his brothers and sisters are: Rodney (married to Carol Fleck), Dianna, Merlin (divorced from Pat Murphy), Sandra (married to Mike Dols), Joe (married to Jackie Bierengard), Roberta (married to Gary Andrist), Linda, then Tom,



**Thomas and Marlys Kittelson Family**  
[L-R] Sam, Thomas, Marlys, Katie



James (married to Barb Vangness), Kelvin (married to Beverly Niersen, David, Theresa (married to John Trainer), Roger, and Ruth. Tom's mother is still alive and well.

Tom was on leave from the Army when I met him, so several months after meeting him, he left for a year's tour of Vietnam. On return in February of 1970, he started school at the University of Minnesota. We were married on May 1, 1971, at St. Aloysius Church in Leo, Minnesota.

In 1973, we interrupted Tom's schooling and went to Europe for three months. We saw a lot and did a lot and came back exhausted and broke. On return, Tom finished his last year of school and graduated with a bachelor's degree in social work. That same month, Katie was born, August 24, 1974. After some searching, as unemployment was at record highs, Tom was hired at the Minnesota Correctional Facility at Sauk Centre, Minnesota.

We have been here five years now. Sammy was born January 25, 1977, at Melrose, Minnesota. Presently, I am working part time at the hospital here. I am involved with my work, church, and home. Tom continues to enjoy his work, although 30 teenage girls on a daily basis can be trying. Kate is five and in kindergarten at Holy Family School and happy. Sam is easy-going like his father. He is three and taking his time in learning the basic skills. They've both added a lot to our lives. It's not been too bad a thirty years!



**Timothy and Sandra Kasprowicz**

#### **TIMOTHY AND SANDRA [KUZNIA] KASPROWICZ**

**Rt. 3, Box 456**

**Shakopee, Minnesota 55379**

I, Sandra Ann Marie Kuznia, was born June 26, 1952. Bernard and Emily welcomed me into this world at two o'clock in the morning. The youngest of three children was a pleasant position to grow up in. I attended kindergarden at Englund School, a little country school made up of neighbor children.

Although I was only seven years old when Dad passed on, my memories are of a kind-hearted and fun loving father. He always had time for those who needed a friend, and his death was felt by many. Mom, a determined and strong lady, took over as head of the family. With the help of uncles, aunts, and our two grandmothers, life was made easier for us.

Mom remarried in 1961 to Adrian Dolney. His love and respect was welcomed whole-heartedly by all. Adrian has proved to be a good father and a patient man. I was nine when we left the Stephen homestead and began our new home in Greenbush. Adrian and Emily made sure that we did not loose touch with our relatives in Florian, making sure that we got together on special occasions.

Adjusting was not difficult, because the two communities were similar in origin. Greenbush High School was where I met my husband-to-be. I was a freshman and he was a sophomore at the time. Timothy John Kasprowicz is the son of Ludwig and Dorothy Kasprowicz. He has two brothers and four sisters. Allen married Sue Dunn of Hallock; Kathy married David Bolling of Minneapolis; Virginia married Oren Lund of Roseau; Mike married Joette Pulczinski of Greenbush; Jennine and Jennifer are employed at the

Greenbush Hospital. Dorothy, his mother, is also employed as a dietician.

Tim graduated in 1969 and decided to serve his country in the U.S. Army. Serving one year in Vietnam, he received an honorable discharge in 1971. I graduated in 1970 and decided to go to nurse's training at Thief River Falls. Working at Northwestern Hospital at the time, I decided nursing was not for me. I then went on to a year of secretarial school at the Thief River Falls vocational school.

With Tim home from the service, we decided to make a life together. The union took place September 8, 1973. At this time, my grandmother, Stella Dolney, was staying with her daughter in California, leaving her house empty. Tim and I were fortunate to set up house for our first year of marriage in this comfortable home. I got a job at the Greenbush Hospital while Tim worked for Stolp's Games and Supplies. Tim decided that he wanted to further his education, and with the G.I. Bill that was offered to veterans, we agreed it was possible to do so. In the summer of 1974, we moved to Moorhead, where Tim attended Moorhead University. I was working at St. Ansgar Hospital as a cook. With my Polish heritage, cooking in big quantities came very easy to me. After a year and a half of this, I moved on and found a job at Silverline, with the hours being easier to live around. Then, in 1979, with Tim graduating and finding a job in Eden Prairie, it was time to move once more.

Currently, Tim is teaching industrial education at the Eden Prairie High School I am working as shipping clerk at Kallestad Laboratories in Chaska. We are living in Shakopee. We both hope to find work closer to our families up north, but until then, we shall make our home here.

#### **AMBROSE AND ANTOINETTE [BOROWICZ] KUZNIA** **Strandquist, Minnesota 56758**

I, Ambrose Kuznia, son of Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia was born November 12, 1926, in Wright Township, Section 7, Marshall County at the Kuznia home place. I attended school at Florian for eight years, then I went to school at Stephen High School

for one year. When World War II started, I quit school to help my dad on the farm.

On November 9, 1948, I married Antoinette Borowicz at St. John's Catholic Church at Alma. Antoinette is the daughter of



Brunes and Sophie (Gajeski) Borowicz. We lived at my father-in-law's farm. I was employed at Stanley Szczepanski's farm in the spring and summer of 1949. In November of 1949, we moved to Crookston, Minnesota. I was employed as a bartender at the Corner Tavern. Edward Grembowski (brother-in-law) was the owner of the tavern.

On April 25, 1950, our first baby was born at the St. Francis Hospital in Crookston. We named him Francis. In May of 1950, we moved back to a farm in Wright Township, section 15. We purchased our farm from my father-in-law. As the years went by, more children were born to our union: Rita, Timothy, Barbara, and Petronella. Then, Paulette was born January 23, 1963. Scott arrived March 6, 1970.



**Ambrose and Antoinette Kuznia Family**  
[L-R] Timothy, Rita, Paulette, Ambrose, Francis,  
Antoinette, Barbara, Petronella  
[Front] Scott

Antoinette has two sisters: Rose and Luella. Rose was married to August Kurowski October 13, 1942. To their union, nine children were born: Dorothy and Delores (twins), August Jr., David, Robert, Paul, Mary, James, and Sandra. August Sr. passed away August 29, 1970. On December 4, 1971, Rose married William Olson. They live on a farm west of Karlstad, Minnesota. Luella was married to Edward Grembowski on October 24, 1944.

In our occupation of farming, we had many ups and downs, so when things started going on a sliding scale, I had to go out working. In the 1950's, I started sorting potatoes for different farmers in Stephen. In 1957, while loading potatoes, I had an accident. A loading chute hit my head and broke my neck. In the early 1960's, I went into construction work. My first carpenter partner was Eugene Kuznia. We worked as roofers at the Grand Forks Airbase in North Dakota. I also worked in construction at the North Dakota State Mill at Grand Forks with Thomas Borowicz as my partner. I also worked on construction at the Drayton Sugarbeet plant, Pembina oil pumping station, and for the Frank Borowicz Construction Company in Argyle, Minnesota.

In the 70's, I retired from construction and went into dairy and grain farming. I also have a hobby. I'm a salesman for Payco Seed Company. I sell mostly corn seed and grasses. Corn is becoming a major crop in northwest Minnesota. I am also a sales representative for the Polish National Alliance of Chicago, Illinois. The Alliance is a fraternal life insurance company. I write life insurance and memberships for Lodge 3060 at Florian. The name of our lodge is Florian Society.

I have served my community in various capacities. I have served as a township supervisor at Wright Township for nine years. I was a director on the Strandquist School Board for seven years. We are

members of the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, where I served on the Parish Council for several years.

As we are starting the 80's, inflation is beginning to get the best of us. Operating expenses in farming are high, and prices for farm products are below parity. I guess it has to be like this. I remember in 1950 when my dad was farming and his crops were hailed out with no hail insurance. He had a new combine ordered at the Roy Benson Implement Company, and he had to cancel the order. Dad was complaining to Roy, and Roy said, "Vince, we'll just have to tighten our belts." Very true. We'll have to do the same.

**FRANCIS AND MARCIA [BYE] KUZNIA**  
**Box 5**  
**Aurora, Minnesota 55705**

I, Francis Kuznia, am the son of Ambrose and Antoinette Kuznia. I was born April 25, 1950, at St. Francis Hospital in Polk County, Crookston, Minnesota.

I attended grades 1-3 at the Arthur Lindstrom Country School. The school then closed, so I was transferred to Strandquist Public School until graduation. After graduation, I worked at Arctic Enterprises in Thief River Falls, Minnesota, for five years.

During that time, I met a girl of Norwegian ancestry, Marcia Rae Bye, who later became my wife. We were married May 12, 1973, at Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota. The first year of married life we lived in Thief River Falls, Minnesota. In May of 1974, we moved to Aurora, Minnesota. I became an employee of Erie Mining Company, a taconite industry on the Iron Range in northeastern Minnesota. I am presently a production truck driver.

Our first son, Aaron Francis, was born May 18, 1975, at the Virginia Municipal Hospital in Virginia, Minnesota, St. Louis County. Two years later, a second son was born, Jonathan Aric, on June 10, 1977, also at the Virginia Municipal Hospital in St. Louis County.

We lived in Aurora until the fall of 1979, when we purchased a home in Hoyt Lakes, Minnesota.



**Francis and Marcia Kuznia and Family**  
[Children L-R] Aaron and Jonathan



Marcia was born at the Mercy Hospital in Devils Lake, North Dakota, in Ramsey County. Her birthday is February 16, 1953. She was raised on a farm near Churches Ferry, North Dakota. When Marcia was a senior in high school, her parents sold their farm and moved to Crookston, Minnesota, where she graduated from high school. After graduation, she attended the Area Vocational School in Thief River Falls, Minnesota.

Arden and Donny Bye (formerly Donna Gilberg) are her parents. Marcia is the youngest of five girls. Sande, the oldest, is married to Robert Erickson and lives at Gilbert, Minnesota. He is employed at Erie Mining Company, also. They have two children, Christopher and Matthew. Patricia is married to James Bennington, who farms near Churches Ferry, North Dakota. They have two children: Chad and Corey. Karen is married to Alan Williams, who is a truck driver in Titusville, Pennsylvania. They have two children: Michelle and Jason. Judy is married to John Schrade, who owns his own landscaping business at Saratoga, New York. They have no children yet.

As we have just approached the 1980's, we have many crises in the world. Inflation keeps rising every day. We pay close to a dollar for a loaf of bread or a dozen eggs. Gas is \$1.25 per gallon, and the talk is before fall it will be \$2 per gallon. What will the future bring for our children and their children and all the generations to come?

#### **RITA [KUZNIA] KASPROWICZ** **Drayton, North Dakota**

I, Rita Kuznia, was born to Ambrose and Antoinette (Borowicz) Kuznia on January 25, 1952. I attended my first year of school at the Lindstrom Country School in 1959. I then went to school in Strandquist, where I graduated in 1970.

For excitement at home, I cleaned house and scrubbed floors. I remember one late evening when I decided to scrub floors. (When I scrubbed or cleaned, no one better be within 30 feet of the house). Well, I was scrubbing in front of the doorway when I saw these legs. Before I looked at who it was, I started hitting the legs with my washrag. When I looked up and saw it was Dad (uffta!) did I start apologizing! I told him to walk right in while I wiped up after him.

I remember another time when I was cleaning, my brother, Francis, came in and was bothering me. I got mad at him, and did we fight! I got him outside and I saw an ax laying on the ground. I figured this would be a good way to keep him out of the house when I was cleaning. I picked up the axe and threw it at him and missed him by an inch. I just wanted to scare him.

On February 7, 1970, I got married to Richard M. Kasprowicz at the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota. Richard was the son of Mr. and Mrs. Sylvester Kasprowicz of Strandquist. Richard has one sister and five brothers: Roger, Leonard, Mary, Mike, Robert, and Gabriel.

We were blessed with two children: Tracy Lee, born April 10, 1970, and Jennifer Lynn, born November 19, 1974.

Richard served in the Army. The first two months he was stationed in Fort Leonardwood, Missouri. In May of 1966, he was sent to Germany. On September 4, 1966, he was stationed at Frankfurt, Germany. Richard returned to the States in 1968 and started working for Ray Hougard, driving semi and hauling grain. He also worked at the Drayton Public School for six years and for the American Crystal Sugarbeet Plant.

My first job was working at the Grafton State School. I worked there for 3½ years. I quit in 1974 because I was going to have a little one. In 1975, I got a job at E. W. Wylie working as a secretary in the afternoons and evenings. I worked at American Crystal on I.B.M. machines, and I also had little jobs like babysitting and working on a potato picker (that was a killer). I still can't figure out why I'm humped back, but I did enjoy my work and being a mother.



**Richard and Rita Kasprowicz Family**  
**[L-R] Richard, Tracy, Rita, and Jennifer**

Our tragic time came on July 10, 1977, when Richard and I were in a car accident. Richard was killed, and I was hospitalized for a few months. Here I was, disabled and two children to take care of. I turned to my parents, and they took care of the girls and me. God bless them! They worked with me for months until I was able to take care of myself. On November 18, 1977, I went to my home in Drayton, North Dakota, with my girls. We have been taking care of ourselves the best we can with a lot of help from my parents, neighbors, and my loved one.

I finally met a man again by the name of Duane Kargel. This is my loved one. We're engaged to be married one of these fine days. Tracy and Jenny will be happy to have a daddy again. My daughter, Tracy, is in the fourth grade. She is in gymnastics, Girl Scouts, and plays piano. My daughter Jenny goes to nursery school. She visits the neighbors and likes to go uptown for pop and candy so she can sit by the elderly people and ask for quarters. Like I said, one of these fine days I will get married, and then we'll live happily ever after.

#### **TIMOTHY AND PATRICIA [PAULSON] KUZNIA** **RR 1, Box 309B** **Aurora, Minnesota 55705**

My name is Timothy John Kuznia. I was born April 6, 1954, to Ambrose and Antoinette (Borowicz) Kuznia. I grew up on my father's farm near Florian, Minnesota. I attended Strandquist Public School for my entire twelve years of education.

On completing high school, I entered the United States Army as a part of the National Guard Unit of Thief River Falls, Minnesota. When I finished basic training, I returned home and began working for the Frank Borowicz Construction Company of Argyle, Minnesota.

During that time, I met my wife, Patricia (Paulson). Her parents, Arden and Esther (Haattvedt) Paulson, farm near Karlstad, Minnesota. Pat's parents are both Scandinavian. Her father is Swedish, and her mother is of mixed Norwegian ancestry. Pat is the oldest, with a brother, Gregory, in Florida, a sister, Vicki, in Colorado, and a sister, Marcy, still at home and attending Karlstad High School.

The fall of 1974, I became an employee at Erie Mining Company, a taconite mine on the Iron Range of Minnesota. We later moved to Hoyt Lakes and spent two years there.



The United Steelworkers went on strike in August of 1976 and remained on strike for months. I transferred my employment to the Hibbing Taconite Company in the spring of 1977 and am currently employed there.

We enlarged the Kuznia family in November of 1979 with the birth of our daughter, Holly Grace, born on the 26th. We now live in Palo, Minnesota, a small community like Florian, except for one difference -- our neighbors are all Finnish!



Timothy and Patricia Kuznia with daughter Holly

DANIEL AND BARBARA [KUZNIA] RENSTROM  
Drayton, North Dakota



Daniel and Barbara Renstrom

I was born on November 20, 1957, to Ambrose and Antoinette (Borowicz) Kuznia and named Barbara Evelyn Kuznia. I graduated from Strandquist High School, Strandquist, Minnesota, in 1975.

I married Daniel A. Renstrom on August 20, 1977. He is the son of Daniel and Gloria Renstrom of Karlstad, Minnesota.

Daniel and I made our home in Drayton, North Dakota. He is a crane operator at American Crystal Sugar Company, and I am presently employed at Drayton Clothing and the C and D Bar and Lounge.

# **PETRONELLA KUZNIA** **Strandquist, Minnesota 56758**

I, Petronella Merie Sophia Kuznia, am the blonde, blue-eyed, Polish, Catholic, single daughter, and fifth child down the line of Ambrose and Antoinette (Borowicz) Kuznia. I was born September 24, 1960, at 9:33 a.m. and weighed 9 pounds 12 ounces. I was the only child born bald.

I attended and graduated from Strandquist Public School. During my years of school, I was in many plays and sports. In my junior and senior years, I was editor of the year book and school paper. In my senior year, I made it to state in vocal music and also was crowned snow-ball queen in Karlstad.

During the summer of 1978, I worked at the Good Samaritan Home in Warren as head supper cook. Cooking is one of my favorite pastimes. I worked there until August of 1978, at which time I started my secondary schooling at Northland Junior College. I attended there one year in general courses. During that year, I was in the chorus and interned four months at the Occupational Development Center as a supervisor. During the summer, I got a job working there, performing the same duties as I did interning. I worked there until my funding expired in December of 1979.

I'm presently without work and living with Ma and Pa. I plan on going back to school when I get enough money. I would like to go into some kind of special education for disabled people. Living at home gives me a chance to go back into the past, because we often talk about the silly things we all did when we were at home. For instance, when I was 3 or so, my sister, Rita, had mixed up a bunch of bleaches and had it sitting on one of our play dishes. I drank it and practically died, but I never had my stomach pumped. I'm often told that's why I'm so blonde. I also remember a time when I was 12. Tim and I were baling hay. I was driving the tractor when it decided to stop. Tim, with his Kuznia temper, started to holler at me, and I started crying. When Tim came, I thought he would start the tractor, but instead he decided to bop me one right in the mouth, and he chipped one of my front teeth.

I'm optimistic about most things. I like to think the best rather than the worst of people. I love little animals and was always bringing home strays. I also love to draw animated characters. I write poetry which Paulette and I sometimes try to put to music. Well, these are a few choice parts of my life so far. Maybe in the future you'll be reading one of my poems, singing one of my songs, looking at one of my drawings, or -- if none of these -- visiting with me at Ma and Pa's and eating some of my cooking.



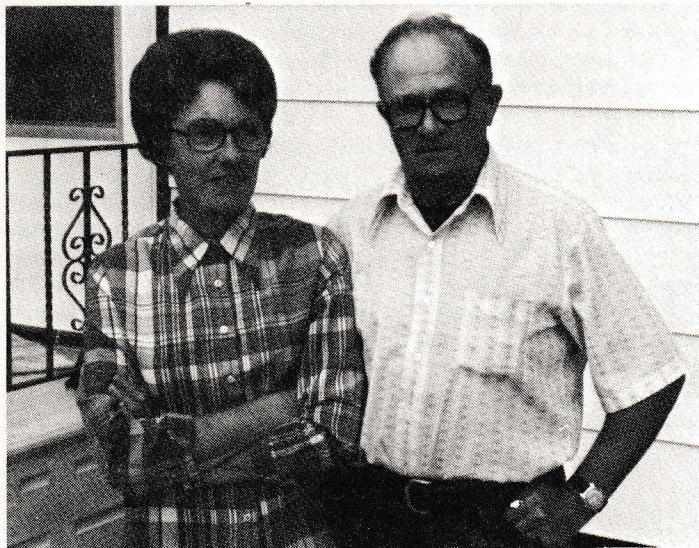


**CONRAD AND LUDVINE [KUZNIA] GRYSKIEWICZ**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

Ludvine Kuznia and Conrad Gryskiewicz were united in marriage October 12, 1948, at St. John the Baptist Catholic Church in Alma, Minnesota.

Ludvine is the daughter of Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia. She was born September 1, 1928, in Wright Township in Marshall County. She attended country school in Florian, Minnesota, where she graduated after eighth grade. There were 48 children at country school, and all were Polish. She also sang in the Junior Polish Choir at church.

Conrad was born to August and Angeline (Kurowski) Gryskiewicz on June 24, 1921, in Wanger Township in Marshall County. He attended country school in Wanger Township, called the Sunshine School, and graduated with an eighth grade degree. He has one brother and four sisters: Irene (Mrs. John Urbaniak), Alice (Mrs. John Borowicz), Pauline (Mrs. Swen Olson), Mary (Mrs. Joseph Robertson) and Donald.



**Conrad and Ludvine Gryskiewicz**

In January of 1949, Conrad and Ludvine started farming in Alma Township, the north half of Section 5. They raised cattle, horses, pigs, and chickens and grew small grains and seed potatoes. They still grow grain and potatoes and for a hobby raise rabbits and go ice fishing.

They have three children. Janice is married to Roger Rybaski. Roger is married to Colleen Spjut. Their youngest, Donna, was born June 20, 1960. She attended Argyle Public School and graduated in 1978. After graduating, she attended the Area Vocational Technical Institute in East Grand Forks, Minnesota, where she took secretarial courses. She has one son, Christopher, who was born December 7, 1979.

**ROGER AND JANICE [GRYSKIEWICZ] RYBASKI**  
Argyle, Minnesota 56713

Janice Gryskiewicz and Roger Rybaski were united in marriage on December 15, 1973, in the Assumption Catholic Church in Florian, Minnesota.



**Conrad and Ludvine Gryskiewicz Family**  
[Standing L-R] Donna, Roger, Janice  
[Seated] Ludvine and Conrad

Janice was born October 3, 1949, to Conrad and Ludvine (Kuznia) Gryskiewicz. She attended Argyle Public School and graduated in 1967. After graduation, she attended Bemidji State College, Bemidji, Minnesota, and majored in vocal music. She also attended a course of nurse's aide training in Warren, Minnesota, and earned a certificate for nurse aide.

Roger was born November 9, 1942, to Frank and Victoria (Bozekowski) Rybaski in Alma Township in Marshall County. He attended Argyle Public School and graduated from high school in 1961. In 1962, he received an auto mechanic degree from Hanson Auto School in Fargo, North Dakota. Roger has one brother, Frank, Jr., who is married to Janene Wang from Greenbush, Minnesota. Frank and Janene have three children: Jessica, Jeremy, and Adam.

Roger and Janice have four children: Rachael, born September 2, 1974; Gabriel, born July 14, 1976; Michael, born September 5, 1978; and Angeline, born in March of 1980.

They are farming in Alma Township, growing small grains and seed potatoes.

**ROGER AND COLLEEN [SPJUT] GRYSKIEWICZ**  
Wyoming, Minnesota

Roger Gryskiewicz and Colleen Spjut were united in marriage on July 28, 1973, at Christ Lutheran Church in Marine-On-St. Croix, Minnesota.

Roger was born July 28, 1951, to Conrad and Ludvine (Kuznia) Gryskiewicz. He attended Argyle Public School and graduated in 1969. After graduation, he attended Bemidji State College, Bemidji, Minnesota, where he majored in elementary education and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in education in 1973. He is presently an elementary teacher in North Branch, Minnesota. He graduated with a masters of science degree from St. Thomas College, St. Paul, Minnesota, in August of 1979. Roger is also a



volunteer fireman in Wyoming, Minnesota.

Colleen was born December 26, 1951, to Raymond and Lila (Foster) Spjut in Marine-On-St. Croix, Minnesota. She attended Marine-On-St. Croix Public School and graduated in 1969. After graduation, she attended Bemidji State College at Bemidji,

Minnesota, where she majored in elementary education and graduated with a bachelor of science degree in education in 1973. She teaches elementary school in Chisago Lake School District.

Roger and Colleen have one son, Ryan, who was born December 8, 1978.

**VINCENT AND LILA [TORKELSON] KUZNIA**

**1688 Dayton Avenue  
St. Paul, Minnesota 55100**

Vincent was the seventh child born to Wanda and Vincent Kuznia. He has the honor of being the only child in the family born in a hospital. This came about because his mother was climbing up where she shouldn't have been and fell down -- something she is still doing in her 83rd year.

Vincent attended Florian School District #44 for eight years. After attending 1½ years at Stephen High School, he quit because his brother, Bernard, had cut his leg badly while sawing wood. So Vince was needed at home.

He met his wife, Lila, at the dances in Florian. Vince and Lila were married in Stephen on October 28, 1952. They farmed for three years near Florian, but gave that up in 1955 and moved to St. Paul. Vince has worked for Hamm's Brewing Company since 1958. Lila is a reading and math tutor for the St. Paul schools.

They have four children. Cynthia is married to Rick Matthews and lives in Kansas City, Kansas. Jeff graduated in 1974 from St. Bernard's High School in St. Paul. He attended college and is now a respiratory therapist at Bethesda Hospital. His wife, Donis, is employed at Samaritan Hospital. Ken graduated from St. Bernard's High School in 1975. He works for a sand blasting firm. Sheryl graduated from St. Paul Central in 1978. She is attending St. Cloud University. For four years, she has worked part time at nursing homes.



**Vincent and Lila Kuznia Family**  
[Back L-R] Kenneth, Rick and Cynthia Matthews,  
Donis and Jeffrey  
[Front] Sheryl, Vincent, and Lila

Lila's parents were the late John Torkelson and Mary Sczepanski. Her mother died in 1937 as the result of rheumatic fever, leaving her father to raise her and her sister, Mereece. Her brother, Leonard, was already on his own. John and the girls resided on a farm one mile east of Stephen, later moving to

Karlstad, where John died in 1946. His death was the result of a blood clot.

Lila graduated from Karlstad High School in 1948. Following graduation, she made her home for four years with Ed and Minnie Carlson at Strandquist, Minnesota. She spent weekends and summers helping in Carlson's Cafe. She attended Thief River Falls Teacher Training, after which she taught school at the Casmer Troska School and at Florian.

Mereece is married to Lester Borneman and lives in Karlstad. Les retired in 1979 after 37 years of service as postmaster. Mereece is activity director at the Karlstad Nursing Home. They have three children. Skip lives in Alaska with his two daughters, Stephanie and Heather. Mitch and his wife, Jean, live in Thief River Falls. The youngest child, Merideth, attends Karlstad High School.

Lila's brother, Leonard, lives on a farm near Strandquist. In 1978, he sold his land to the Safranskis and is now enjoying semi-retirement.

Vince and Lila are avid polka dancers. They go dancing every weekend. In the summers, they attend the polka festivals in Minnesota and the International Polka Festival in Milwaukee every August.

In the fall of 1977, Vince and his cousin, John Gratzek, went on a trip to Poland. While in Poland, they rented a car and traveled all over the country, staying at homes of their relatives. Everyone welcomed them warmly and wanted them to stay longer. All in all, it was a most enjoyable and rewarding trip.

**RICHARD AND CYNTHIA [KUZNIA] MATTHEWS**

**1901 Sheriden Bridge Road  
Olathe, Kansas 66061**

I am the oldest child of Vincent and Lila Kuznia and the 22nd grandchild of Vincent and Wanda Kuznia. I was born in Crookston, Minnesota, and lived on my parents' farm near Florian until we moved to St. Paul in 1956. I attended elementary school at Immaculate Heart of Mary and high school at St. Joseph's Academy. After graduating from high school in 1971, I received my dental assistant certificate from Normandale Community College in 1972.

While attending St. Joseph's, I met my husband, Rick, who was going to Cretin, a parochial boys' school in St. Paul. He graduated from there in 1970 and moved on to the University of Minnesota. Rick's parents, Mr. and Mrs. Richard A. Matthews, Sr., have ten children. Mary Ellen is the only girl and the second oldest. The boys, from oldest to youngest, are: Kevin, Bill, Rick, Sean, Mark, Greg, Dan, Steve, and Tony.

Rick and I were married in 1974. I was working full time as a dental assistant, and Rick was finishing his degree in electrical engineering. He graduated in 1976 and started working for Control Data. In 1978, we moved to Olathe, Kansas, where Rick took a job



with United Computing Systems. Through the company, Rick was able to spend the month of November, 1979, in England, working in their London office. I got to go there for a week just to visit.

Up until the time we moved to Kansas, I had been working as a dental assistant. When we moved, I decided to switch careers. I am now processing health claims for an insurance company. I also have plans to go back to school to get a degree in business.

We miss Minnesota a lot and are planning to move back and build a home in the future.

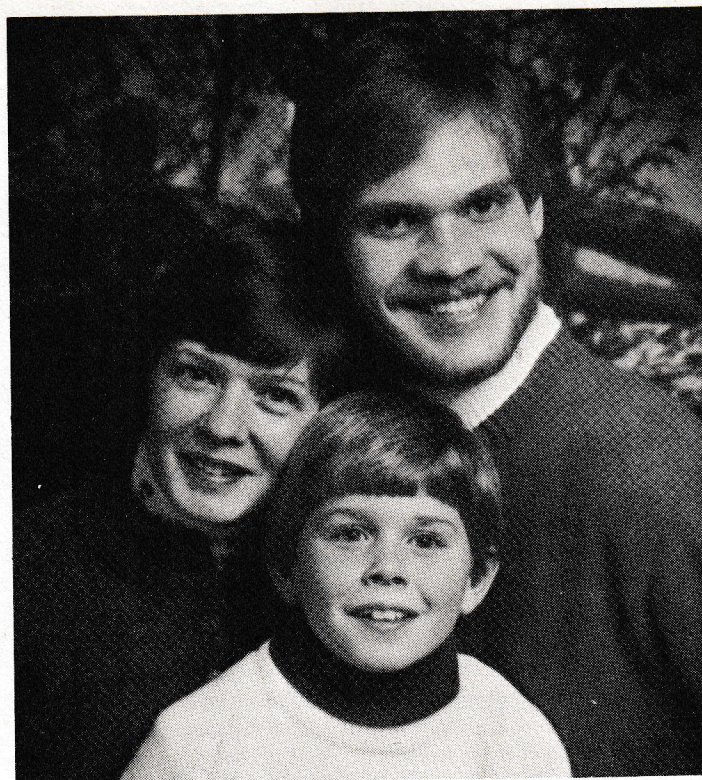
**JEFFREY AND DONIS [BOSS] KUZNIA**  
**2149 Fairmount Avenue**  
**St. Paul, Minnesota**

Jeffrey Kuznia was the second child and first son born to Vincent and Lila (Torkelson) Kuznia on August 3, 1956, at Crookston, Minnesota.

I was brought up in St. Paul, Minnesota, and was a very good student. Being six feet four inches tall, I was naturally a member of the basketball team at St. Bernard's High School. I then attended St. Thomas College for one year and then North Hennepin Community College for respiratory therapy. During this time, I met Donis while we were co-advisors of a medical explorer post in St. Paul.

On January 10, 1975, at St. Paul's on the Hill in St. Paul, Minnesota, Jeffrey married Donis Boss. She is the daughter of Forest and Dorothy (Kalkbrenner) Boss and was born July 16, 1942, at Milwaukee, Wisconsin. Donis grew up in Lake City, Minnesota, on the Mississippi River and was an active swimmer and sailor. After graduation from high school, she attended school in Minneapolis and graduated as a medical technician.

A son, James Lemmer, was born January 14, 1968, in St. Paul, Minnesota. He attends Immaculate Heart of Mary School and plays the clarinet in the school band. He also is a member of the swimming team and the ski club and enjoys riding horses.



**Jeffrey and Donis Kuznia with James Lemmer**

Jeff presently works at Bethesda Medical Center in St. Paul in the cardio-pulmonary services department. Donis is presently employed at Samaritan Hospital as a surgery assistant and is also a student and will be attending Normandale College in September in the nursing program.

We live close to the Mississippi River and enjoy walking along the river year around and cross country skiing. We also enjoy renovating our old home. We are very active in our parish.

**HILARY AND JULIANNA [DOSTAL] KUZNIA**  
**R.R. 1, Box 137**  
**Stephen, Minnesota 56757**

Hilary John Kuznia is the youngest child of Vincent and Wanda (Gratzek) Kuznia. He was born October 2, 1935, in Wright Township, Marshall County, Minnesota. He attended school in Florian and graduated from eighth grade. Hilary worked with his father and brothers on the farm. To earn extra money, he worked out. He remembers his first job was helping with potato harvest on the Clarence Carlson farm. To get the job, he said he was older than his 14 years. The first day he helped hand pick potatoes. The rest of the fall, he helped load the full sacks of potatoes onto the trucks. He spent many winters after that working in local potato houses. After his father's death in 1955, he helped his mother farm. In 1959, he leased the farm from her until he bought it in 1974.

Hilary, like his cousin, Eugene, married a daughter of the Norbert Dostals. He and Julianna were married June 20, 1961, at St. Mary's Catholic Church in Badger, Minnesota. Father James Bernauer officiated at the ceremony. This day was the 17th wedding anniversary of Hilary's oldest brother, Valerian, and his wife. The reception was held at Julianna's parents farm, with the dinner and

supper served in their newly-built garage. It was so dry that year that the grass was brown on their wedding day.

Julianna's sister, Virginia, and her husband, Chester Szklarski, were the couple's witnesses. Right after the ceremony, they learned that Chester's mother, Mrs. Anton Szklarski, had taken ill. Mr. and Mrs. Anton Szklarski had driven to Badger to attend the Kuznia wedding when Mrs. Szklarski fell ill. So, instead of going into the church, they returned home. After learning that Mrs. Szklarski was ill, Virginia and Chester returned to Florian. The wedding pictures were taken at a studio in Roseau. First the pictures were taken without Virginia and Chester, but they later came back, and the pictures were re-taken. Then they received a call that Mrs. Szklarski had died. Although a wedding dance is a time of celebration, theirs was dampened by the absence of their bestman and matron of honor.

After their honeymoon to Wisconsin and Iowa, Hilary and Julianna lived with Hilary's mother. A month later, they moved another house onto the yard. Hilary's mother moved there, leaving



them the big house. This house they live in was built by Hilary's grandfather, Albert, in 1912. It was the home of Albert and Hedwig until 1917, when their son, Vincent, and his wife, Wanda, moved in. In 1937, Vincent had the roof lifted and a second story was added. Hilary and Julianna have also done much remodeling to the home.

As Hilary and Julianna were not blessed with children the first few years, they decided to open their home to foster children. On October 7, 1963, the first children ranging from age 2 to 11 were brought to the farm. They were the six Peake children: George, David, Cecilia, Wanda, Anna, and Dorothy. Expecting to have the children for a year or so, it turned out that most stayed until they were grown teenagers.

On April 27, 1966, their first child, Mary Geralyn, was born in the Crookston Hospital. She had troubles, so was baptized by the hospital chaplain from Australia. When she was a month old, they were able to bring her home. Four years later on March 21, 1970, Charlette Marie was born. Exactly ten months later on January 21, 1971, Vincent Jude was born. He was premature and weighed only 4 pounds 2 ounces, so he, too, was baptized in the hospital and remained there three weeks before coming home. On December 15, 1977, Vernon James was born, and 10½ months later on October 28, 1978, Dennis Joseph was born. A couple of days after Dennis was home, he was taken to the hospital. He was baptized in the Warren Hospital before he was transferred by ambulance to the Grand Forks, North Dakota, intensive care baby unit, where he stayed for ten days.

At present, Mary, Charlette and Vincent attend Stephen Public School. In the summer, they help around the farm and spend many enjoyable hours at the Florian Park. Vernon and Dennis never let the family have a dull moment. In the summer of 1979, Vernon gave the whole family a scare when he disappeared. After 20 minutes of worrying and searching, they were overjoyed to see the Florian Park manager, Ralph Kuznia, drive in with the little 19-month-old next to him. It turned out he had followed the road and walked to the park.

Hilary is engaged in farming. At first he general farmed: small grain, sheep, dairy cattle, and a couple of hogs. The last ten years, he changed his operation to grain and hogs. In 1974, he started the Kuznia Feed Company and sells Gold Label feed. In 1979, Hilary was asked to become a Dahlgren dealer. The last few months he has spent some of his spare time taking orders for sunflower seed. He sold enough that he won a trip to Jamaica, but was unable to go.

Julianna was born July 13, 1941, in Roseau County, Minnesota, to Norbert and Helen (Kukowski) Dostal of Badger, Minnesota. She graduated from Badger High School. After attending a year of teacher's training in Thief River Falls, she taught at a rural school



**Hilary and Julianna Kuznia Family -- 1980**  
**[Back L-R] Mary, Dennis, Hilary, Julianna**  
**[Front] Vincent, Charlette, and Vernon**

near Gentilly, Minnesota. Her brothers and sisters are: Bernard, Mrs. Chester (Virginia) Szklarski, Mrs. Eugene (Margaret) Kuznia, Mrs. John (Edwardine) Szklarski, James, and Mrs. Mike (Lillian) Kuznia.

Hilary and his family are members of the Assumption Catholic Church of Florian. He has served as collector, is a lector, and a member of the parish council, of which he is the present president. Julianna has helped teach CCD classes and is a member of the ladies group. The family also belongs to the Florian PNA. Hilary has served as president of the organization.