

The Family of Dorothy Lauzon & Len Lewandowski

DOROTHY'S CHILDHOOD

Dorothy played in the HS band and always liked music [1].

In 1945 Dorothy rented a room at 1416 Quincy Ave in the house of John Krueger. She worked as assembler at Walker Manufacturing [4]

MARRIAGE

Dorothy Lauzon married Leonard Lewandowski on April 19, 1952 at St. Cyril & Methodius Church in Milwaukee, WI.

THE LEWANDOWSKI NAME

The Lewandowski name has been pronounced many ways by even members of their own family. Len used "Lev-an-duv-ski", which he believed was the more correct Polish style. Paul uses "Lev-an-dus-ski" whereas, Jim gives his name as "Lu-en-dow-ski" to avoid some of the name jokes he's heard. The Lauzon family used the more Americanized version of "Lee-wan-dow-ski". Oh well, what's in a name but the integrity of the people behind it?

LEN'S WORK LIFE

Len Lewandowski worked on the grounds crew at Milwaukee County Stadium in the 1950's, during the period when the Braves were still the major league baseball team in town. He worked there for about 6 years. He frequently was able to bring home tickets for the family to use.

In the late 50's he had the opportunity to work for the Milwaukee County ? Department as a heavy equipment operator. He enjoyed driving the big rigs and was quite good at it. He worked there for about 30 years.

Len enjoyed woodworking and collecting. He was an avid coin collector.

CHILDREN

Paul Lewandowski was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on January 16, 1953. He was the first son of Dorothy and Len.

Jim Lewandowski was born on July 25, 1954 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the "old" St. Luke's Hospital by the Allen Bradley clock tower.

Mary was the third child born to Dorothy and Leonard. She was born on November 24, 1957 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin.

RETIREMENT

Len retired from a Milwaukee firm and then moved to North Carolina for 5 years. Eventually they returned to Milwaukee.

In retirement, Len enjoys refinishing furniture, woodcarving, and building wood clocks.

PAUL LEWANDOWSKI

Paul Lewandowski was born in Milwaukee, Wisconsin on January 16, 1953. He was the first son of Dorothy (nee Lauzon) and Len Lewandowski.

Paul worked for Thorp Finance from 1976 to 1979. Paul moved to Greencastle Indiana in 1979 and

married Katie Day there on Nov. 8, 1980.

Paul worked as an accountant for an appliance dealer in Greencastle, until the company went bankrupt. In the mid-1990s Paul was working as an account collector for Mutual Hospital Services, in Indianapolis.

Paul and Katie's family began with the birth of Andrea Len on November 14, 1981 in Crawfordsville, Indiana.

Paul and Katie are both formally fanatical squaredancers. As age crept up on them they traded their own physical exertion for their daughter's Andrea. Their primary exercise in the 1990's consisted of taking her to gymnastic classes five times a week and watching her. [2-All info]

In January 2019 Paul retired after 40+ years in credit and collections. Katie had previously retired after 30+ years as an elementary school teacher. They continue to reside in Greencastle. Together they enjoy travel. Paul at present works very part-time and had worked as a high school football official. Katie enjoys doing scrapbooks and riding her bicycle. [3]

Daughter Andrea Len was born in Crawfordsville, IN on Nov 14, 1981. In October 2018 Andrea married Steve Straley in Indianapolis. She is presently employed as an RN in Indianapolis. Steve works as a mortgage broker. Step children John and Jennifer McDonald both reside in San Diego CA. John works as a carpenter and Jennifer works for the port of San Diego.[3]

JIM LEWANDOWSKI

Jim Lewandowski was the second son born into the family of Len and Dorothy (nee Lauzon) Lewandowski. He was born on July 25, 1954 in Milwaukee, Wisconsin at the "old" St. Luke's Hospital by the Allen Bradley clock tower.

Jim met JoAnn Nordick in the 1978. She was born on June 12, 1954 in Breckenridge, Minnesota. The couple were married in Omaha, Nebraska on June 16, 1979.

Jim is a concert pianist, who only plays on special requests of the tone deaf and those hard of hearing.

Jim worked as a safety engineer with Aetna Insurance, in DePere, WI. He then moved to Omaha, Nebraska and served the VA Medical Center as a safety engineer, commuting to Lincoln.

Jim plays the piano, has a very good voice and a general love of music. He sings in his church choir and with the Omaha symphony Choirs. [1]

Jim and JoAnn began raising a family when they adopted several children. Andrew Jameel Lewandowski, was born in 1988 in Calcutta, India. They added a second child to their family with the adoption of Sara Yong. She was born in 1993 in Taejon City, Korea. Jim & JoAnn Lewandowski adopted Sara Yong when she was an infant.

Andrew plays the piano for the hard of hearing, just like his father. Sara likes to dress up and dance.

In 1995, Jim quit his VA job and began working in the safety department at Armour-Swift-Eckrich Meat Processing.

Jim is an EMT and has been a volunteer firefighter.

JoAnn is a registered nurse who works in geriatrics. She enjoys crocheting.

SOURCES

[1] Dorothy Lauzon Lewindowski, verbal recollection of her family history at a visit to her house; info given to Bill Lauzon, August, 1996

[2] Interview conversation with Paul Lewandowski by Bill Lauzon, 4/30/97, at funeral of his father, Len

[3] Email from Paul with updated family info, 08/18/2020

[4] Racine City Directory, 1945