

D'Anna Family



The D'Anna family originated in San Vito, Sicily where Pasquale (Patrick), the grandfather, was a fisherman. Pasquale and his wife, Catherine nee Giannoli, came to the United States in 1905. They came to the Detroit area and settled in Wyandotte, Michigan.

They had eight children. The second youngest boy, Vito (William) D'Anna, married Frances Mocerri, whose family originated in Terrasini, Sicily. William and Frances had four children: Patrick, Joseph, Anthony and Catherine, all born in Detroit. The greater D'Anna family was honored in February in 1943 when the United States Navy named one of its ships the "U.S.S. Wyandotte", recognizing the successful War Bond drive headed by the D'Anna family during World War II.

Anthony (Tony) D'Anna, the youngest son of William and Frances, was born on March 24, 1945 and was baptized at Holy Family Catholic Church in downtown Detroit. After graduating from the Detroit College of Business, he worked for Ford Motor Company and then Rockwell International. Tony married Geraldine Coraci (Geri) July 28, 1972, daughter of Angelo Coraci from Alcoma, Sicily and Dominica (Margaret) nee DiMercurio from San Vito, Sicily. Angelo and Margaret had seven children: Vera, Leonard, Mary Margaret, Pauline, Geraldine and two who died in infancy. Geri was born July 18, 1945 in Detroit, baptized at St. Rose Catholic Church, and graduated from Madonna University in Livonia. She taught first grade for 10 years.

Tony and Geri have three children who are graduates of Frankenmuth High School. Catherine, born in Wyandotte, Michigan November 16, 1975, attended Michigan State University and obtained her Master's Degree in Speech Pathology. Catherine married Bryce Moe. Bryce has an Accounting Degree from Michigan State and an MBA from Southern California University.

Catherine and Bryce live in Chicago. William (Bill), born in Wyandotte, Michigan June 3, 1977, earned an Accounting Degree from Michigan State University. Bill lives in Chicago and holds the position as CFO for a major company. Anthony born in Chattanooga, Tennessee July 29, 1981, graduated with a Business Degree from Saginaw Valley State University and is pursuing a McDonald's career as the Second Generation in the D'Anna organization.

In 1980, Tony decided to go into business for himself by actively pursuing a McDonald's franchise. He felt McDonald's was a solid company offering excellent growth opportunities. In 1983, at the completion of an extensive training program in Tennessee, where the D'Anna's lived, McDonald's offered Tony a restaurant in Frankenmuth, Michigan. Having eaten many chicken dinners there, as well as delivering Carling Beer from Frankenmuth to Wyandotte in his early years, Tony quickly responded, and by August 1, 1983, the D'Anna family had moved to Frankenmuth. After the Frankenmuth McDonald's was firmly established, Tony and Geri added Bridgeport in 1986, Birch Run in 1989, Marlette in 1992, Vassar in 1994 and North Branch in 1997. Over the years, Tony and Geri have received numerous awards from communities, organizations, clubs, civic groups, schools, the State and many from McDonald's, including their most prestigious "Golden Arch Award" for outstanding achievement and contributions to McDonald's.

Tony and Geri actively participate in a multitude of school, hospital, church, community and charity events. Tony is a member of Rotary, Chamber of Commerce, Civic Events Council, the Michigan McDonald Association, the McDonald's Outstate Ad Committee, the Ronald McDonald House Charities Board, the Environmental Committee and the McDonald Purchasing Board. Geri is very active in the restaurants and in their McDonald's office.



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