

Vitany Family



he Vitany name came to this area through James “Andy” Vitany. Andy was born in Flint, Michigan on July 16, 1923, of Hungarian parentage, to father Andrew Vitany and mother Mary nee Szecsod Vitany.

He attended the University of Detroit for one year before entering the service in 1942. He served in the U.S. Army for four years working as a medical assistant both in England and Washington D.C.

After his discharge, he continued his education at Central Michigan University where he received his Bachelor’s Degree in Education. He later earned a Master’s Degree at the University of Michigan.

He started his teaching career in Birch Run, Michigan in 1948, where he remained until 1956. When he came to Frankenmuth in 1957, he served as principal of the elementary school. During his tenure, Lorenz C. List School was constructed. He also served as assistant coach of high school football and basketball.

Andy moved to the Buena Vista School District as principal of Highland Park and Claytor Elementary schools. He was promoted to superintendent in 1970 and retired from that position in 1978.

His love of sports and children influenced him to return to coaching basketball in Frankenmuth in 1982. He became the junior varsity girls’ basketball coach and remained in that position until 1988.

Andy was loved not only by the community of Frankenmuth but by all the people with whom he came in contact. This is evident by the numerous awards he received for outstanding leadership.

Andy received awards for 30 years of participation in umpiring and refereeing for the Michigan High School Athletic Association. He received an “Outstanding Leadership and Devotion to Children” award from the citizens of Buena Vista.

He also was awarded the prestigious “Friends of Youth” award in 1993, from the Meet of Champions.

He was inducted into the Hall of Fame by the Frankenmuth Softball Association in 1994.

While teaching in Birch Run, Andy married Margaret “Peggy” E. Prisk (b. November 29, 1928) on June 21, 1952 in Farmington, Michigan.

They had four children: Daniel James, a teacher in Birch Run, Michigan; William Andrew, an Administrative Assistant in Grant, Michigan; Carrie Vitany Adlam, a Social Worker with Lutheran Child and Family Services; and Julie Ann, deceased September 24, 1959.

They had five grandchildren: Westin, Wade and Colton, sons of William; Taylor Danielle, daughter of Daniel; and Brooke and Matthew Adlam, children of Carrie.

Andy died on January 6, 1994 and is buried in Flint Memorial Cemetery. Margaret “Peggy” continued to reside in Frankenmuth and worked part-time at the Wickson Memorial Library in Frankenmuth, Michigan.



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