

Bradley Family



he son of Noble Fred Bradley (1899-1972) and Marie nee Reda (1905-1981), named Fred "Freddie" Bradley, was born in Detroit, Michigan December 19, 1926. He was baptized in Detroit in January of 1927 and later confirmed in the Lutheran faith in

Royal Oak.

Freddie's younger brother, Jack, was born in 1931 and presently resides in Rochester, Michigan. The family spent most of the boys' younger years in the Flint area where they also graduated from high school.

Freddie recalls that during the Great Depression of the 1930's the family was traveling from Royal Oak to visit grandparents in Flint. During the trip they had six flat tires. Five year old Freddie has further reason to remember those events, because it was during this trip that Freddie decided to throw one of his shoes out of the window. Needless to say, Freddie went barefoot for some time until the family was able to afford a new pair.

After high school graduation and during World War II, Freddie, having reached the age of 18, enlisted in the U.S. Navy. He served from 1944 until 1947, attaining the rank of Botswain's Mate third class.

In 1950, Freddie came to Frankenmuth to marry Dorothy nee Bruns, a Frankenmuth resident, whom he met on a blind date. Living in Royal Oak, Michigan, Freddie was able to date Dorothy only on weekends. During two years of courtship, he missed coming to see Dorothy only two weekends.

The couple has lived in Frankenmuth since their marriage.

Fred was employed by Consumers Power for 32½ years, working his way up from the ditch detail to Gas Dispenser Supervisor.

Dorothy started working as a waitress at Zehnder's Restaurant in 1942 and continued in this capacity, taking time out to raise the couple's two sons.

Upon her return to the restaurant, she started working in housekeeping and fondly remembers Eddie and Marian Zehnder, managers and owner at Zehnder's; working side by side with their employees. She recalls that, after a full day's work back when there was no air conditioning, it was not unusual for Eddie and Marian to sit down with their employees to laugh about the trials of the day and join them in a cool drink. Dorothy retired after 36 years with Zehnder's Family Restaurant.

Fred and Dorothy's family includes:

Paul Frederick, an electrician living in Vassar, working for Chrysler in Ferndale, Michigan, and married to Nita nee Emerson.

Jeffrey Martin, a machine operator living in Vassar, working at Unique Instruments in Bridgeport, Michigan, and married to Janice nee Farnum.

Fred and Dorothy have four grandsons: Matthew, Lauren, Jerod and Ian. They also have two great-grandchildren: Riley and Matthew Jr.

Fred passed away unexpectedly on September 10, 1994, and is buried in St. Lorenz Cemetery.



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