

Grossi Family



The Grossi family heritage can be traced back to the middle of the 1400's to Patrica, Italy, where the family farmed vineyards. Egidio Grossi's great, great-grandfather was a builder who participated in constructing the historic St. Pietro's Church in the town square of Patrica, where it still stands today.

Egidio "G" Grossi, the oldest son of Pio & Gina Grossi, was born in Patrica, Italy in 1953 and came to this country when his parents immigrated to the United States a year after his birth, in 1954. G. Grossi attended school in Flint, Michigan and was a member of the first graduating class of Flint Powers Catholic Central in 1971. While attending Flint Junior College, he managed "John's Pizzeria" in Flint and "John's Restaurant" in Davison, Michigan.

Paola "Paula" (Rinaldi) Grossi was also born in Patrica, Italy in 1956. She immigrated to Canada with her parents, Marcello and Luigina Rinaldi, and her older brother, Benito, in 1967. Paula lived with her family until her marriage in 1975, when she relocated to the United States.

G. Grossi and Paula Rinaldi were married on June 28th 1975. They moved to Grand Blanc, Michigan, where G. managed a restaurant. G. and Paula have 2 children: Michael Anthony Grossi (born in Flint, Michigan on April 6, 1976 and Christina Grossi (born in Saginaw, Michigan on April 7, 1979). The children graduated from Frankenmuth High School. Michael went on to college at the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor, where he graduated with a Bachelor's of Science Degree in Industrial Engineering. He later received his Masters in Manufacturing Engineering from the University of Michigan. Michael is now the Plant Manager of Unique Instruments in Bridgeport, Michigan. Christina Grossi went on to college at Michigan State University. She received a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Economy from James Madison College.

Christina attended Cooley Law School in Lansing, Michigan and received her Jurist Doctorate in 2004. She now practices law in Saginaw, Michigan.

In March of 1977, G. & Paula Grossi (at the age of 23 and 21 respectively) opened their first restaurant in Bridgeport, Michigan called "Pompeii Pizzeria and Restaurant." "Pompeii" is still in operation under new ownership. In October of 1977, they opened "DaVinci's Italian Restaurant" in Frankenmuth, Michigan. "DaVinci's" is still owned and operated by the Grossi family. From 1977-1982, G. and Paula opened several other establishments including "Pompei Pizza Factory" in Reese, Michigan, "Pompei Pizza Factory" in Saginaw, Michigan, and "Heritage Bakery" in Frankenmuth, Michigan.

When not working in the restaurants, G. Grossi spent the majority of his time coaching sports within the community. He coached both boys and girls basketball where, over an eleven year span as the Frankenmuth Junior Varsity Girls Basketball Coach, he amassed a 211 win and 8 loss record. He has also coached Frankenmuth Freshman Football, Varsity and Junior Varsity Softball, Track and Baseball.

G. is past Chairman of the Frankenmuth Visitor and Conventions Bureau, a member of the Frankenmuth Chamber of Commerce, a member of the Tri-County Food and Sanitation Task Force; and is a board member on the Frankenmuth Zoning Board, the Saginaw County Sports Commission, and the Frankenmuth Sports Commission. He was one of the founding members of the Frankenmuth Optimist Club. G. and Paula are active in the daily operations of "DaVinci's Restaurant". G. operates and manages the business operations of the restaurant, and Paula develops most of the food ideas and concepts, and handles the majority of the business' catering.



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
For copies of Family Histories go to www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory