

Szymanski Family



The Szymanski name came to America when Steve Szymanski Sr. immigrated and located in the Depew, New York area in 1911. Shortly thereafter, he moved to Maynard, Ohio where he met and married Katherine Lisek in 1914. Steve was born in 1891 in an area of Lychow, a district of Rzeszyca in Czestochowa of Southern Poland. Katherine was born April 4, 1897 in Ksieza, a district of Rzeszyca and also came to America in 1911. Although they were both born and lived in the same area of Poland, they were not acquainted with each other.

Steve and Katherine had five children: Matthew I, Julie Boroski, Rose Skiba, Matthew II (named after Matthew I who died in early childhood), and Della Ripka (died in 1978).

From 1913 to 1923, the family lived in Maynard, Ohio; Depew, New York; Flint, Michigan; and Triadelphia, West Virginia. During this time Steve worked in a furniture factory, an auto plant, as well as some foundry work and mining.

In 1936, the Szymanskis moved to rural Birch Run, Michigan where they farmed until 1967. In 1972, Steve and Katherine retired to Sarasota, Florida, where Steve died in 1976 and Katherine in 1977.

Matthew Szymanski II brought the family name to Frankenmuth. He was born in Flint, Michigan on April 14, 1923, and baptized in the Catholic Church in Elm Grove, West Virginia. He was employed by the Frankenmuth Brewing Company in May of 1941. He served three years in World War II, after which he resumed his employment at the brewery.

Matthew retired as Packaging Manager in 1985 from the G. Heileman Brewing Company.

Matthew married Irene Reichle, daughter of Herman Reichle and Agnes Rupprecht Reichle Zehnder on May 3, 1947 at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church.

Their marriage was blessed with three children; Stephen Matthew, Jacalyn and Jill Ann.

Stephen Matthew, born July 19, 1948, married Janice Rychel of Saginaw, Michigan April 28, 1979. They had two sons, Joshua Matthew born July 2, 1980, and Jeffrey James born December 3, 1981. Stephen and Janice reside in Frankenmuth.

Jacalyn Faerber, born September 26, 1952 resides in Frankenmuth.

Jill Ann, born February 9, 1957, married John Christ of Battle Creek, Michigan on November 24, 1984. They reside in Battle Creek. They were blessed with four children: Heather Marie Krueger, born February 14, 1973; John Matthew, born December 26, 1985; Teri Elizabeth, born April 18, 1988; and David Mason, born April 2, 1991.

As of the year 2006, Matthew and Irene continue to reside in Frankenmuth in the same home they built in 1948. They are active members of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. They enjoy hunting, fishing, golf and bridge.



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