

# Tuckey Family



he Tuckey name came to this area through Donald L. Tuckey (b. February 1, 1935). Donald's family lived one mile west of Cass City, Michigan and was engaged in farming. His father assisted area farmers with their custom thrashing. In 1947 following World War II, his father opened a gravel pit on the family farm and installed a cement block plant. A few years later, he bought the first of several "redi-mix" trucks. The family continued to farm and care for a large herd of registered Hereford cattle.

Donald lettered in four sports during his last two years of high school. After graduating from Cass City High School in 1953, he entered Central Michigan University on a pre-med course. He played football and was starting center/line backer on Central's 1957 championship team. He was a member of the Delta Sigma Phi fraternity. Following graduation, he spent almost a year working with his father in the family concrete business, as well as working nights as a "set-up man" at Walbro in Cass City.

Donald married his college sweetheart, Kathlyn J. Gabbard of Capac, Michigan February 8, 1958. On April 14, 1958 he entered Naval Officers' Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. After commissioning to Ensign in August 1958, he was assigned to the staff of the Commander-in-Chief Atlantic at Norfolk, Virginia. He spent three years at this command, first as a Crypto Watch Officer, followed by Crypto Training Officer, and then Crypto Security Officer. In the last capacity, he was in charge of the head-quarter's Command Crypto Center, which served the NATO Headquarters based there.

In September 1961, Donald entered medical school at the University of Virginia. He graduated in June 1965. He served as vice-president of his class for four years, was on the honor's council, and was elected to ODK National Leadership/Scholastic Fraternity.

On July 1, 1965 he entered a rotating internship at Saginaw General Hospital. He had planned to enter General Practice, but instead opted to pursue specializations in Obstetrics and Gynecology, for which he spent three additional years at Saginaw General as an OB-GYN resident, completing his training June 30, 1969. He entered practice with the group known as M.A.P.T.S., now known as Women's OB-GYN, P.C. The group opened a branch office in Frankenmuth in the early 1980s. He served as Chief of the OB-GYN Department at Saginaw General, as well as two years as Chief of Staff at Saginaw General. He also served on the Board of Directors of Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals and Saginaw Medical Society. He received board certification in OB-GYN in 1971 and is a fellow of the American College in OB-GYN.

Dr. Donald and Kathlyn Tuckey have three children, all of whom attended St. Lorenz Lutheran School and graduated from Frankenmuth High School.

Patrick L. was born April 1, 1959 in Norfolk, Virginia. He is a commercial airline pilot for American Eagle, a part of American Airlines, and he lives in Dallas, Texas.

Elizabeth G. was born March 22, 1964 in Charlottesville, Virginia. She married Robert Stearns of Frankenmuth and they had three children: Jacob, Anne and John.

Nances K. was born July 13, 1966 in Saginaw, Michigan. She married Jerome Sheppard of Frankenmuth and they had two children, Caleb and Luke.

The Tuckeys moved to Frankenmuth December 17, 1970. They are members of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church. Dr. Tuckey is a former member of the Frankenmuth Lions Club. Following his retirement in July of 1999, Dr. and Mrs. Tuckey spent winters at their second home in Hilton Head Island, South Carolina.



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