

Sawyers Family



The Bavarian Inn Lodge was fortunate to have the same general contractor, R.D. Hendrick & Son, Inc., for its construction. Phase I of 89,500 square feet was opened in 1986. Phase II of 98,000 square feet was opened in 1989 and Phase III of 116,000 square feet opened in June of 1995. The construction supervisor for all three phases was Harold Keith Sawyers, Superintendent, most commonly known as "Buzz". It takes a special type of person to supervise 400 people from different trades, to work with the architect and owner, and to bring to completion a project of this size. Buzz did an excellent job and it is for this reason that a guest room at the Bavarian Inn Lodge has been named in his honor.

Harold Keith Sawyers was born September 25, 1933 in Saginaw, Michigan, to Charles Earl and Winifred Irene nee Albright. He was baptized into the Methodist faith March 25, 1934. He attended Saginaw schools, graduating from Saginaw High School in 1951. Buzz followed his father's footsteps when he started his apprenticeship in carpentry in June 1951. After his apprenticeship in 1955, he served two years in the armed services. Upon discharge, he went to work for R.C. Hendrick & Co., working his way up to Job Superintendent in 1961. Buzz is the second generation of his family to be a member of the Carpenters Local 334 Union. A third generation Sawyers, Kerry, is a member of this union.

Buzz worked on many construction jobs, some of which are: Consumers Power on Weiss Street, St. Mary's Hospital, renovation of St. Mary Cathedral, Buena Vista High School, the Federal Building, Bridgeport Junior High, Wurtsmith Air Force Base at Oscoda, Center Road Professional Building, Vassar Bank, Saginaw Chippewa Indian Reservation at Mt. Pleasant, Michigan Milk Producers at Ovid, National Bank of Detroit in Saginaw,

Saginaw General North, and the Doll Factory, Roof Garten and kitchen renovation at the Bavarian Inn Restaurant.

Buzz married his high school sweetheart, Theresa Ann Nowak, daughter of John and Anna Nowak, on February 27, 1954 at St. Paul Lutheran Church in Saginaw. They are charter members of Messiah Lutheran Church. They had four children: Karen Ann born July 5, 1956 and died October 20, 1976; Cheryl Lynn born June 24, 1960 and died January 20, 1961; Sharon Kay born May 17, 1962 who is an administrative assistant at Saginaw Cooperative Hospitals, Inc.; Kerry John born March 2, 1967 who works as a carpenter with a local contractor. Kerry worked with Buzz at the Bavarian Inn Lodge Phase I and II projects. He married Marcie Ann Klein May 12, 1990 at St. Anthony Catholic Church. Kerry and Marcie have a son, Jeremy Jacob, "J.J.", born September 18, 1994.

The Sawyers trace their history to Robert (May 24, 1819-March 8, 1903) and his wife Sarah nee Greer (1818-1895). Robert and Sarah were married in Northern Ireland in 1840. On their honeymoon they traveled 13 weeks from Dary, Ireland to Streetsville Ontario, Canada, and started a new life there. They had 10 children. In 1877 they took all but the two oldest children and moved to Sault Ste. Marie. One of the sons, Charles (1856-1917) married Eliza Jane "Jenny" nee Young (1856-1933) on June 11, 1883. They had a farm south of the Soo, also a wood yard and a dray business. Jenny's brothers, David and John, purchased the dray business when Charles retired. Charles and Jenny had 6 children, one of who was Charles Earl, Buzz's father. Charles Earl (1884-1983) married Winifred Irene Albright (1899-1969) on May 12, 1920. Besides Harold Keith, they had three other children: Charles Elmer married Betty Leitz; Maxwell Robert married Marjorie Fedcke; and Richard Dean (1928-1988).



Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge
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