

# Duclos Family



he Duclos name came to Frankenmuth in 1950, when Richard had just graduated from Valparaiso University and started a life-long career with Frankenmuth Mutual Insurance Company.

Richard Paul Duclos was born in Saginaw, Michigan, December 6, 1923, the son of John Walter Duclos (1891-1965) and Mabel Hahn Duclos (1893-1951). Richard was baptized and confirmed at Holy Cross Lutheran Church in Saginaw, Michigan. He graduated from Arthur Hill High School in 1941 and from Valparaiso University in 1950 with Bachelor and Jurist Doctorate Degrees. Richard married Ruth Harriet Ehlen September 4, 1949 in Minneapolis, Minnesota. Ruth was born January 22, 1928 in Elysian, Minnesota, the daughter of Herbert and Hattie nee Wolter Ehlen.

Richard and Ruth had four children:

Thomas James was born April 1, 1952. He graduated from Saginaw Valley College in 1974 with a degree in political science and business. Tom became the owner of The Tom Duclos Insurance Agencies in Saginaw and Houghton Lake, Michigan. Tom married Stacie Emery February 15, 1992 and they have a daughter Danielle and a son Dustin Otto.

Susan Ruth was born November 4, 1954. She earned Bachelor and Master degrees in social work from Western Michigan University. Susan is presently a social worker in Allegan County. She resides in Kalamazoo, Michigan with her two children: Emily Ruth and Andrew James Newkirk.

William Paul, born March 26, 1958, graduated from Michigan State University in 1980 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Business Administration. He is an Account Manager at Electronic Data Systems. William married Robin Flanders August 8, 1981. They live in Clarkston, Michigan with their three children: Claire Elizabeth, Nicholas Paul, and Morgan Rae.

Elizabeth Ann was born June 2, 1963. She was employed by the Wilson, Kemp Investment Firm in Detroit, Michigan. She married Thomas Emery July 28, 1984. They reside in Romeo, Michigan and have two children: Alison Elizabeth and Thomas Richard.

Richard "Duke" Duclos started his career at Frankenmuth Mutual in 1950. He was appointed Claim Manager in 1960 and promoted to the position of Vice President and Claim Manager in 1968. He was elected to the Board of Directors in 1977 and appointed Secretary-General Counsel in 1978, serving in the capacity of General Counsel until retirement in 1988.

Duke's associations included the Saginaw County Bar Association, the State Bar of Michigan, the Michigan Insurance Lawyers Council (past president), and the Michigan Defense Council. He served industry associations as member of the Michigan Insurance Federation, the Michigan Association of Insurance Companies' Legal Affairs Committee, Committee on Michigan Insurance Needs, the Board of Directors of Lutheran Life Insurance Association of America, and President of the Saginaw Valley District, Lutheran Fraternities of America.

Richard and Ruth were members of St. Lorenz Lutheran Church where Richard served as chairman of the Board of Education. In the community he served as chairman of the City of Frankenmuth Zoning Board of Appeals and was a charter member of the Frankenmuth Lions Club.

The Duclos family originally came from Prussia, where Charles Frederick was born in 1833. He and his wife, Johanna Elizabeth Moll came to Saginaw where Charles Ottomar Duclos (1867-1944) was born. Charles Ottomar married Emma A. Wagner (1880-1958) and their son, John Walter, was Duke's father.



*Researched & Compiled by Bavarian Inn Lodge*  
*For copies of Family Histories go to [www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory](http://www.bavarianinn.com/familyhistory)*