

As I stated before my parents owned their own business so they were always busy. My Dad would work long hours and hard to provide for his family and my Mom would do her best to work her hours and raise us kids. My Dad, Kenneth is a big fellow standing 6'5" tall and muscular. He has a great personality and is wonderful with people. In his high school years he was the captain of the Edgerton Basketball team that won the Ohio State Championships in 1959 under the direction of "Babe" Shoup. After high school he went to Defiance College and played ball there for three years before giving it up to graduate his senior year. He graduated with a Bachelor Degree in Social Studies and taught at Edgerton High School and was the basket ball coach there from 1965 to 1972 when he left to run Franz Nursery full time. Franz Nursery was started by my grandfather, Robert Franz in 1964 as a part time business to make money in his retirement, but soon grew to become the largest landscape firm in NE Indiana and NW Ohio. My dad bought him out in the 1970's and we moved from Edgerton to Hamilton in 1973.

My mother, Arlos met my dad when they were in high school. She was a cheerleader at Hicksville High School. They dated from the day they met until they were married in 1962. She also attended Defiance College and graduated with Bachelors degree in Early Childhood Education. She taught elementary school at Hicksville Schools from 1964 to 1972. She is quite a bit shorter than Dad which makes them a unique pair. My mother is a caring person, but many times was the disciplinarian in our family with us kids. She always made a home for us and cooked wonderful meals.

I have two brothers, one younger and one older than I am. My older brother, Kirk is close to my height but much bigger than me. He has black hair and blue eyes which made him a chick magnet in High School. He was a great athlete and played football until his knee decided it did not want to go anymore causing him to drop out of sports his senior year. He graduated in 1987 and went to Vincennes University where he graduated from with an associates degree in Horticulture Management. He worked for my dad at the nursery from 1991 until 1997 at which time he left to due to construction. Currently he is married to Trisha, who he met at Vincennes University and they have to children, Kyle and Cory who are both good athletes. Kyle is the more mental one and Cory the physical one but they are great kids. Kirk and I were never to close when growing up but we did hang out in Bryan, Ohio together cruising the strip. One of my fights I got into in Bryan was while I was cruising with him in his 1986 Camaro. It wasn't the car or either of us that caused the fight, it was the fact we had Indiana tags on our car which singled us out. We took on five guys and both got a little bloody but in the end we kicked their butts. I ended up having to pay for the damage to drive through sign at McDonald's because I side kick one of the guys through it...man that was expensive. Kirk was never much of a scrapper but was strong and he has a great personality. People kind of flock to him and this made him popular in school. He is still much the same as a father and husband.

My younger brother, Bobby is 7 years younger than I am and my parent's only biological child as Kirk and I were adopted at bith. Bobby started out a good kid, was a good athlete but he got involved with the wrong crowd in his high school years and ended up in trouble with drugs and drinking. One of Bob's friends was Von Hudson, who was a scoundrel and drug dealer wanna be. Von decided he did not like one of Bob's friends, a kid named Joey Miller. I do not know much about Joey but I do remember when Von decided he wanted kill him. Von Hudson shot Joey Miller in front of my brother and my brother got in a lot of trouble because it was his gun. The best thing that came out of this ordeal is it truly straightened my brother up and it re-enforced my stand against drugs and gangs. My brother is now married, a successful landscape designer, has three children Chase, Liam and Paige all of whom are adorable. My Dad retired last year and now he runs Franz Nursery. Although he does not have my Dad's great social skills, he is a good manager and was trained by my Dad so he will do a great job. Bob and were never close growing up, mainly due to the drugs and his friends but we are caring brothers now and I have respect for his change over.