

The Bonnie McKinnis Hazard Family History

I was born Bonnie Jean McKinnis on April 30, 1947 in Lyons, Kansas, the third child and only daughter.

Parents:

Richard Irvin McKinnis (b.1915) and Marian Joan Link McKinnis (b. 1916), both deceased.

My childhood was spent on Grandfather Anderson McKinnis' farm until I was 9 years old, and my family moved 3 miles down the road to the original Cook farm. I loved being outdoors playing in the shelterbelt (which contained a wonderful bag swing and old hay wagon that we used for all kinds of games and imaginary situations) and helping take care of all the animals on the farm. I lived at the Cook farmhouse until I was married, and loved the red barn and double porches on the front of the house.

I attended Union 5 Grade School 1st-8th grade. My graduation class from Union 5 in 1981 had 5 students. I belonged to Lyons Conquerors 4-H club until I was in high school, winning many ribbons and prizes in cooking and sewing—including several ribbons with our 4-H square dancing group. Mom made my skirts and the boy's shirts to match.

In high school, I played tennis with a high state ranking and won awards for typing and shorthand in our school state contests (KCCA). I graduated from Lyons High School in 1965. My father and grandmother also graduated from Lyons High School.

In 1965 I started at Hutchinson Community College in Hutchinson, KS part-time while working and graduated with an Associate Degree in 1986. I also attended Sterling College in Sterling, KS and University of Phoenix in Phoenix, Arizona, but never completed a full degree.

In 1966 I married John Hazard in Lyons and divorced in 1984. While married, we bought a place with small acreage atop a hill in Lyons, where you could see for miles. We raised feeder pigs and lots of pets. During this time, a friend gave me a stuffed pig as a joke, and I (and family and friends) began a pig collection that numbers over 600--in all shapes, sizes and types from all over the world.

I worked at Sterling College for 20 years, first as a cashier, moved up to bookkeeper, and then office manager. In 1988 I moved to Tempe, AZ and began working for Motorola-Phoenix; my division was bought by General Dynamics in 2002. I have been with Motorola/General Dynamics for almost 25 years, having worked in the Human Resources Department as a Payroll Clerk and Benefits Representative. Now I am a Senior Billing Associate and reside in East Mesa, AZ.

My three children:

Heidi Sue Hazard born March 3, 1977

Justin Guy Hazard born November 9, 1981

Angela Marian Hazard born November 27, 1987

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Heidi graduated from Lyons High School in 1995, a fourth-generation graduate. She worked as a waitress and bookkeeper with various companies. Since 2008, she has worked as HR Benefits Coordinator at Hutchinson Correctional Facility and graduated with an HCC Associate Degree in May 2013. Heidi married Steve Royse in 1999; they divorced in 2007. She lives in Hutchinson and had two children:

Nicholas Ryan Epp Royse born May 11, 1997

Morgan Elizabeth Royse born March 20, 2000

Justin graduated from McClintock High School in Tempe in 2000. He completed a certificate in Computer Technology in 2003 at Hi-Tech of Phoenix. He changed courses after the dot.com bust and graduated as an EMT, working several years as a transport technician for various companies and SouthWest Ambulance. He graduated from the Fire Academy of Phoenix in 2011 and will earn his degree as a Paramedic in 2013. His goal is to be a fireman.

Angela (Angi) graduated from New School for the Arts in Tempe in 2006 and worked as a teller for TruWest Credit Union for two years. She attended training at Dolce Salon, Phoenix, and is a Certified Nail Technician at their suburban Salon & Spa at Chandler Fashion Mall. She is engaged to Christopher Thompson of Chandler, AZ, an Assistant Chef at Mission Palms Resort in Tempe.

*By Bonnie McKinnis Hazard
East Mesa, Arizona
April 2013*