

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

Donald Lee Penix was the second child of William and Evelyn Penix. Donald was born on June 9, 1938 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Donald attended Woodward elementary and Junior High school and Kalamazoo Central High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan. While attending high school he also worked at the A&P grocery store.



Donald at the age of five years. You thought I was kidding about the fish, didn't you.

He loved sports and even played on a church league basketball team that won the first half championship one year with Donald playing center. This may not sound unusual but, Donald was only 5'7" tall and was the tallest player on the team. All the other teams had centers that were 6' to 6'6" tall.

Don was a Cub Scout, Boy Scout and a member of the DeMolay of which he is a life

member. Don is a Past Master of the DeMolay which is a Masonic organization for young people that aren't old enough for the Masons.

After graduating from high school, Donald worked one year at Fuller Manufacturing to get enough money to attend college. He started at Western Michigan University the following year. While attending the University, he worked at the A&P, Carls Market and National Food (at different times of course). He graduated four and one half years later with a B.S. degree, majors in Mathematics, Physics and Education and a minor in Psychology. He also earned a teaching certificate.

Just before graduation he married, then after graduation, started his teaching career with two years at Albion Junior High School in Albion, Michigan



Donald and Ann Penix

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

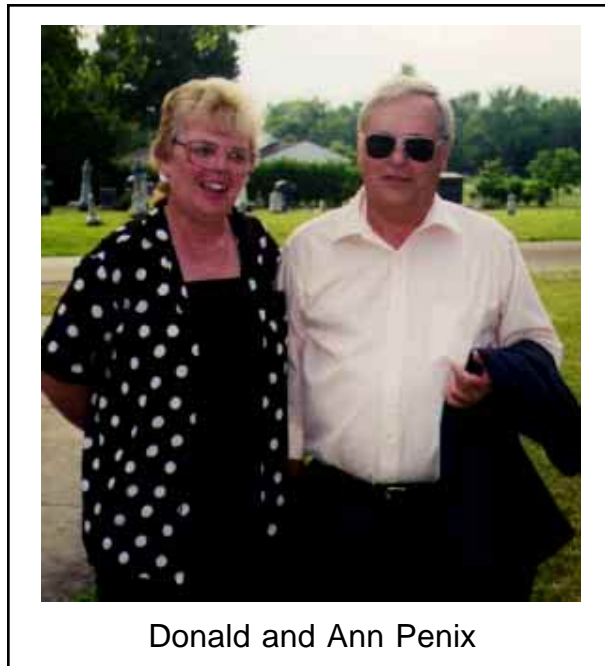
### Donald Lee Penix

and 28 years at Comstock High School in Comstock, Michigan and is now retired.

While attending Western he met and married **Ann Marie Boersma** daughter of John and Mary Boersma. They got married on December 27, 1961 at St. Augustine church in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Don and Ann then taught at Albion Junior High School (Ann only two half years since she also had two children during that time.) They then moved back to Kalamazoo where Don began teaching at Comstock High School. Donald taught

end of summer, Donald decided his time would be better spent remodeling their home and eventually a small cottage on Gun Lake. In 1974 they bought a lot on Gun Lake, sold the small cottage and in 1976 started building their present home.

Ann Marie Boersma, the



Donald and Ann Penix

Mathematics and in the last several years also taught computer programming.

During the summers Donald attended school and worked at places like the Job Corps, Fuller Manufacturing and the local food market. After a few summers of starting a job and the getting laid off before the



Ann's family. Shown left to right are father John, Suzanne, Robert, Ann and mother Mary Boersma.

daughter of John Boersma and Mary Ketelaar, was born in Kalamazoo, Michigan on December 24, 1939. She attended school in Kalamazoo and graduated from St. Augustine High School in 1957. Ann then went to Western Michigan University and graduated in 1961 with a major in mathematics. Ann taught mathematics in the Junior and Senior High Schools for 30 year. She is now retired. Ann enjoys her husband (I know you won't believe it, but she wrote this), children, granddaughters and the families three poodles.

Ann started buying and

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

selling collectables. She mostly bought and seemed to do very little selling. We often have a hard time trying to find the beds upstairs because of all the collectables (Don calls it junk.). She also likes to play cards (one of two reasons she will stay up after 9:00 PM at night) and playing the slot machines (her other reason for staying up after 9:00 PM).

Don retired in 1992 from teaching and spends most of his time fishing, cooking, golfing, repairing the house and keeping up the yard.

Donald loves to fish, hunt with gun and bow, and in the last few years took up golfing as a way to get exercise. Since Ann wouldn't eat anything that was wild (what happened to the pioneer spirit in the family?),

the hunting and fishing haven't been too frequent the last few years. The last few years Don and Ann have started collecting Poodles and may start breeding them. Ann loves the dogs so much that she would get rid of Don if she could teach the dogs how to cook and clean house.

### Children of Donald and Ann Penix:

◊ **Kathleen Ann Penix** was the first child born to Don and Ann Penix on December 4, 1962 in Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Kathleen was always called Kelly from the time she was born. Ann wanted to name her Kelly, but grandma said that it sounded like a dogs name (At that time there was a movie with a dog named Kelly in the movie.)



The children of Donald and Ann Penix. Shown are front: James and Donald Jr. and back: Michael and Kathleen Penix



Kathleen Penix

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

so, she was named Kathleen and then was always called Kelly.

Kelly attended Kalamazoo grade schools and Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She was a member of the Brownies, Girl Scouts, 4H, girls little league softball, National Honor Society and the High School Band and Orchestra.

Kelly attended Western Michigan University and graduated with honors in Mathematics and majored in Mathematics and Computer Science. She started work at Upjohn in Kalamazoo after graduation. She married **Jeffrey Lee Robbins** son of Marylyn Jane Foerster born on September 26, 1934 in Ypsilanti, Michigan and Richard Eugene Robbins born on March 9, 1933 in Branch County, Michigan.

Jeffery Lee Robbins (as told to me by Jeff) was born on October 7, 1963 in Kalamazoo, Michigan along with 2 older brothers. His father was vice president of a small architecture firm and his mother a dedicated home maker.



Jeffery, Kathleen, Amanda and Jennifer Robbins

Jeff went through the public school system in Kalamazoo, Michigan getting good grades. He sang in the Loy Norrix high school choir and played the clarinet in the high school orchestra. He was also heavily involved in Scouting from a young age, ending his involvement at age 20 as an Assistant Scout Master.

During his junior year in high school, he had the good fortune of getting to know Kathleen (nickname Kelly) Penix (a senior at the time). It all started in the "Grease" band. Both Kelly and Jeff participated in the band providing music for the musical "Grease" put on by our high school choir and orchestra. From that magical point in time, they talked more, dated, and spent a lot of time working on school work together. They were in love!

Kelly and Jeff both went to Western Michigan University after graduating from high school. Kelly and Jeff married during his 4th year at Western. She worked at EDS a division of General Motors while he finished a BS degree in Statistics with a minor in Chemistry. He continued on at Western and earned his MS degree in Applied Statistics from Western in 1988. In 1987, they were blessed with a beautiful little girl.

After graduating from Western, he started working for the Johnson and Johnson Pharmaceutical Research Institute in 1988 located in New Jersey. At J&J, he was part of a team of professionals responsible for the FDA approval of the broad spectrum antibiotic Floxin. While in New Jersey,

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

Kelly and Jeff were blessed with a second, beautiful baby girl in 1989. In 1990, he accepted a similar position at Parke-Davis Pharmaceutical Company in Ann Arbor, Michigan. Currently, he works at Parke-Davis and has a house in Saline with his lovely wife Kelly and two beautiful daughters.

At Parke-Davis, he is a senior statistician responsible for helping design clinical studies used to test experimental new drugs in people, responsible for the statistical analysis of the study data, and responsible for summarizing the study results in report form with the goal of winning FDA approval to market the new drugs. He was partly responsible, along with many other professionals, for the approval of the ACE inhibitor Accupril for the lowering of blood pressure and treatment of congestive heart failure. He currently is working with experimental drugs for contraception and hormone replacement therapy.

Finally, to close, his three fondest memories are 1) his wedding day, 2) the births of his two daughters, and 3) backpacking through the beautiful New Mexico mountains and canoeing through remote areas of upper Wisconsin with his father on multiple occasions. In his spare time he enjoys doing things with his family, hunting for deer with bow and gun, camping, woodworking, fishing, and flying military jets on personal computer flight simulators. His children tell me that daddy won't let them on the computer

because he is busy with a game.

### Children of Jeff Robbins and Kathleen Penix:

• **Jennifer Lynn Robbins** was born on February 19, 1987 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. She has in the past had



Jennifer and Amanda Robbins

meningitis, stitches in her chin, and a broken arm. She is doing well in school, currently third grade. So far, her strengths in school are reading and science. Jennifer loves to explore. She has a healthy imagination. Moreover, Jennifer seems to gravitate towards boyish activities and likes to wear boy's clothing.

She plays softball quite well and is in Girl Scouts. A couple of months ago she had a ball at her first overnight Girl Scout camp out in a cabin. Some of the places she has traveled to with her parents include all around New Jersey, New York city, Philadelphia, various places in Colorado, Chattanooga,



# Children of William and Evelyn Penix

Donald Lee Penix



Jennifer Robbins



Amanda Robbins

Niagara Falls, Mackinac Island, Cedar Point Amusement Park, South Carolina, and Disney World. According to Jennifer, her favorite holiday is the 4th of July, favorite food is Red Delicious apple, favorite game is Snake in the Grass, favorite toy is her Nerf ball, favorite place is Mackinac Island, and most special memory was when Mittens was a kitten (our family cat).

• **Amanda Marie Robbins** was born on April 15, 1989 in Somerville, New Jersey. She is doing very well in school, currently first grade. She has lots of friends at school and does well on all her school work. Amanda loves

school. She is sensitive and very caring. She enjoys wearing pretty clothing, putting on makeup, pretending, and playing with dolls. Last year she played on a T-ball team for the first time and did well. She is in Girl Scouts. Some of the places she has traveled to with her parents include all around New Jersey, New York city, Philadelphia, various places in Colorado, Chattanooga, Niagara Falls, Mackinac Island, Cedar Point Amusement Park, South Carolina, and Disney World. According to Amanda, her favorite holiday is Halloween, favorite food is macaroni and cheese, favorite game is Aggravation, favorite

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

toy is her Purr Kitten, favorite place is Kid's Kingdom, and most special memory was cuddling with her mom.

◊ **Michael Lee Penix** was the second child of Don and Ann Penix. He was born on May 21, 1964 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. At the time that Michael was born his parents were living in Albion, Michigan and had to drive the 50 miles to the hospital in Kalamazoo. All the way on the highway to Kalamazoo Ann kept saying slow down (even though I was only going 55 MPH with a 70 MPH speed limit). When we got to the grandparents to give them Kathleen, I just sat her on Evelyn's lap, dropped the bag for Kathleen and walked back out to take Ann to the hospital. When I got into the

car, Ann said "I think you better hurry". It's a good thing the hospital was only a mile from my parents house because by the time I caught up with Ann after parking the car (I dropped her at the door) Michael was born.

You may be wondering why I would relate this story at this time. Well, that was the start of the way Michael is living his life. Put everything off until the due date and then work like hell to get it done!

Mike describes himself as still being single with one narrow escape. That being when he was in college. The girl he was going with insisted that they get married or split up. Mike made the wise decision and said goodbye. I say wise because in a very short time, she married someone else.

Michael attended the Kalamazoo Public schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan and graduated from Loy Norrix High



Michael Lee Penix



Michael, James and Donald Penix Jr. recently at Jim's wedding.

# Children of William and Evelyn Penix

Donald Lee Penix

School in 1982 with honors.

The Heyl Foundation made attending Kalamazoo College (referred to as "K" in the Kalamazoo area) a possibility by paying for his tuition and books for being one of the top public High School students in Kalamazoo since he graduated with honors. Mike graduated from Kalamazoo College with majors in Mathematics and Computer Science.

Also in 1984 as part of the Kalamazoo College experience, Mike did a foreign study in Aix-en-Provence France which is about 30 km north of Marseilles on the French Riviera. He spent August through December in school and then traveled around Europe on the trains until March visiting countries such as France, Spain, Morocco, West Germany, Austria, Switzerland, Italy, Greece, Yugoslavia, Hungary, Belgium and the Netherlands where He meet up with members of his mothers side of the family.

In the 1981 and 1982 summers Mike worked for Bob Andrews selling Nut Dipped Ice Cream at fairs, antique shows, etc. throughout Michigan, Indiana and Ohio.

In the spring 1984 he worked for the Illinois Criminal Justice Authority in Chicago Illinois where he was writing software that would provide crime statistics to the federal government.

In 1986, he left the nest and moved to Denver, Colorado to work for Auto-trol Technology writing computer software in C/C++ on Unix workstations.

In 1993, Mike says "he was laid off from Auto-trol

Technology for writing a company email that contained the old Yiddish saying 'When a fish gets rotten, the head stinks first.' (I guess management was reading my email after all)".

At this point, he took a contracting job with Advanced Archival Products in the Denver Technology Center. At AAP, he was making modifications to their Unix device drivers for jukebox systems.

In 1993, he started work for KaPRE. He worked on a new financial system that was financed through Venture Capitalists. In case you haven't dealt with VC's before, they are basically modern day loan sharks that give you money to start up a company so you can put in the sweat equity to get it going. When the company turns out to be successful, everyone finds out that the VC's are now rich as they own the company. Unfortunately, the solution was much bigger than estimated and they have yet to ship product. He left them due to job instability and a bad boss. He escaped a major layoff and reorganization by two months.

In 1995, Mike left Denver, Colorado and moved to St. Louis Missouri to work for Data Research Associates. He was recruited by the Vice President of Software for whom he worked for at Auto-trol Technology. Mike is currently working on software that is to be used by libraries to automate everything from their card catalogs to maintaining electronic copies of magazines online for searching and reading.



## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

For recreation Mike likes traveling, both domestic and foreign. He went back to Europe in the summer of 1989 for 3 weeks and spent 3 wonderful weeks on the island of Maui in about 1991. He also has gone on several road trips through the mountains of Colorado to Las Vegas, San Diego, Los Angeles. Auto-trol also sent him on company business to various places like Seattle, Orlando and Boston. Additionally, they had him stationed in Sunnyvale, California for 3 months in 1992.

Mike also enjoys pinball. The old fashioned kind that you play in bars and arcades. Currently, his favorite machines are The Addams Family and Star Trek The Next Generation. He has played them both so much that he can get a couple of hours of entertainment on \$2.

Mike also enjoys playing in Las Vegas (There's so much to keep one occupied ...), softball (He has been on multiple teams through the last 10 years. They have ranged from the teams out to drink beer, to the teams that wanted to win at all costs. Coincidentally, the team that liked to drink the most finished first one year ... it surprised all of them as they only won 2 games the previous season), and computers (Unfortunately, working on computers all day tends to detract from his favorite hobby since the last thing he wants to see after staring at a monitor and a keyboard for 10 hours, is another monitor and keyboard. At least the monitor and keyboard at home are attached to an Apple Power book).

James Scott Penix was the third child of Don and Ann Penix. Jim was born on August 23, 1966 at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan. James attended school in the Kalamazoo Public Schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He graduated from Loy Norrix High School in 1984 and like Michael earned a full paid scholarship to Kalamazoo College. He studied for six months at the University of Strasbourg, France in the fall of 1986 and winter of 1987 as his foreign study for Kalamazoo College. He also worked at the Kellogg Biological Station (an extension of Michigan State University) during his sophomore and senior years. He graduated from Kalamazoo College in 1988 with Bachelor of Arts Degrees in Mathematics and Computer



James Scott Penix

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

Donald Lee Penix

Science.

During his school years he participated in 4H, National Honor Society and little league baseball (he was selected to the all star team one year). He also enjoyed playing cards, fishing, swimming and other athletic games.

In the fall of 1988 James started working for the Upjohn Company as a Computer Systems Engineer in the Chemical Division. James is still working for the same company but his job is now a Computer Systems Analyst/Programmer in the Research and Development area. I say the same company but they recently merged with another company and are now called Pharmacia & Upjohn Inc.

Jim's hobbies include computers, cards, baseball and stamp collecting.

James met a smart young girl while attending Kalamazoo College. Jim married this smart girl named **Ann Mary Weltervreden** on April 20, 1991 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Actually Jim's father highly approved the marriage to Ann since he knew her before Jim did. He had her in a Mathematics class in high school.

Ann was born on September 24, 1965 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Her parents are John J. Weltervreden and Ann Heneveld. Since Ann's mother died when Ann was young, she also has a stepmother whose name maiden name was Maria Portbliet that is now her mother. Ann graduated from Comstock High School in 1983. She then studied at Kalamazoo College and graduated in 1987 with a major in Mathematics. Jim and Ann met in



James and Ann Weltervreden Penix

a Computer class at "K" as Kalamazoo College is referred to, in 1985, but didn't start dating until 1987 (I assume because Ann didn't want to date someone like her favorite teacher).

Ann continued her studies at Iowa State University, Iowa where she completed her masters degree in Statistics in 1989. After graduation Ann worked a brief period of time at the Cleveland Clinic in Cleveland, Ohio in the Biostatistics department. To keep a closer eye on James, Ann moved back to Kalamazoo in 1990 and began working for Upjohn in Clinical Development-Biostatistics. Ann continues to work at the same company (now Pharmacia & Upjohn) but as a part time job so she

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

can spend time with their daughter.

James and Ann have one child:

• **Elizabeth "Elie" Ann Penix** who was born on November 23, 1994 at Bronson



Elizabeth Ann Penix

Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan.

James and Ann purchased an older home in Galesburg, Michigan just before they got married and have spent a lot of time remodeling the home.

◇ **Donald Lee Penix Jr.** (D.J.) was the fourth child of Don and Ann Penix. Donald was born on March 4, 1968 at Borgess Hospital in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Despite being born with a club foot (actually it was a birth defect that affected most of his right leg) on his right side, D.J. (Donald

was called this, among other things, to keep him straight from his dad) was a very active child. He participated in numerous activities, including playing organized baseball for several years where he was named to the all star team one year. Donald had all his schooling in Kalamazoo Public Schools, graduated from Loy Norrix High School in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1986 with honors.

He then went to Kalamazoo College because he received a scholarship like his brothers, where he received a B.S. in Computer Science and Mathematics in 1990. He also studied in Madrid, Spain in 1989 for 6



Donald Lee Penix Jr. This picture was put in here by special request.

## Children of William and Evelyn Penix

### Donald Lee Penix

months as part of a Foreign Exchange program through Kalamazoo College.

Donald also held two internships during college, one at the Kellogg Biological Station in 1987, and the second at The Upjohn Company both in Kalamazoo, Michigan in 1990.

After graduation, Donald enrolled at Western Michigan University as a candidate for his masters in Computer Science. After one year, Donald started working for a new multi-media software company called Op-T-Sof, located in Orange Park Florida, just outside of Jacksonville. For two years Donald traveled throughout the mid-west and southern states, where he did numerous installations of software at paper companies such as James River Corporation, International Paper, and Kimberly Clark.

In 1993, Donald left Op-T-Sof and moved to Ann Arbor, Michigan where he is currently employed with STATPROBE, Inc. Donald studies development drugs that are submitted to the FDA for approval. Still single, Donald lives with his two cats, Itchy and Scratchy, and enjoys outdoor activities such as tennis, mountain biking, softball, golf and camping.

As an active University of Michigan fan, he enjoys attending Michigan sporting events such as football and basketball games.

My wife insisted that I make a statement about the fact that all four children majored in Mathematics in college. She



Donald Lee Penix Jr.

also insisted that I say that three of the four children had her for Algebra in Millwood Junior High School.

What she didn't want me to write was that I was the one that the children came to when they didn't understand what their "dumb" (we always joked about this when they would ask me a question about Algebra) Algebra teacher was talking about. She also didn't want me to tell you that she doesn't even know how to turn on a computer. Since they all are working in the computer field and I was a Mathematics teacher that also happened to be a computer "nut" I rest my case!