

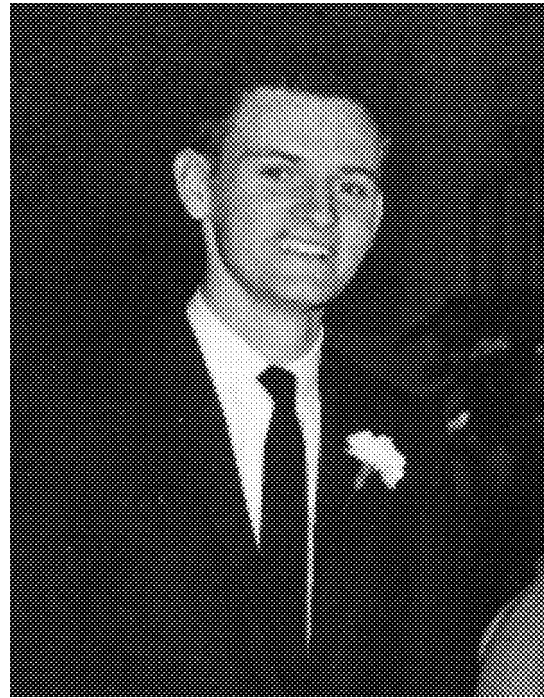
Children of William and Evelyn Penix

John Edward Penix

John Edward Penix¹⁴ was the third child born to William and Evelyn Penix. John was born on August 14, 1943 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. John attended the Kalamazoo Public Schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan most of his educational years except for the last two years of high school when he attended and graduated from Richland Public Schools (now part of Gull Lake Consolidated Schools) in Richland,



John Penix standing in the corner which was normal for him at that age.



John Penix in 1962.

Michigan.

When John was very young, he idolized cowboys (didn't most of us then?) and spent much of his time wearing a cowboy outfit complete with two cap gun pistols. The boys next door asked him one day if he wanted his guns to make a

¹⁴ Much of the information about John is missing, especially dates, because John wouldn't answer his phone or call back when I left a message on his answering machine or respond after I sent him a copy of the information that I had for him.

real loud noise. Being the young and innocent child that occurs at that young age, he, in spite of me urging him not to, gave his cap guns to the neighbor boys. The neighbor boys put firecrackers in the barrels and lit them. The firecrackers did make a real loud noise, but the two guns now became four pieces. This seemed to end his career as a cowboy since no cowboy would be caught without his pistols.

When we were young, John always seemed to have a way of getting us or himself into trouble (don't all younger brothers?). I remember another day when he was throwing rocks at cars and broke the windshield of one. He had the right idea, he hid from the man driving the car, except he hid under his own porch, but then couldn't figure out why the man seemed to know where he lived.

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John participated in cub scouts but was quite rebellious and refused to go to boy scouts. In fact about the only things John seemed to be interested in was bugging his sister when she had a date (he was six years younger than her) and playing sports with us older boys (he was five years younger than me) only because our parents said he had to play with me or I couldn't play, but we had to play by his rules or he would go home crying which would end the game.

As John got older he did enjoy swimming, fishing, speed and hunting which he still continues to this day. He also enjoys bow hunting for deer.

If you ask any of John's friends today they would tell you that if you needed help, John would be there to help you. I found this to be very true as John got older. I never asked for help from John without him jumping in and in most cases doing most of the work involved. Many times I would discuss a problem

with John and the next thing I would know he would be there with the solution.

After graduating from Richland High School, John started attending Western Michigan University in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After a semester he started working for the local A&P store and gave up the schooling. John was hired as a butcher trainee by the store.

After a short period of time he had a chance to work at Fuller Mfg. which paid much higher wages. John decided to work at Fuller Mfg. and spent about twenty years there working as a machinist and assembly line worker. After about twenty years, Fuller Mfg. (by this time it was known as Eaton ,Yale and Town with Fuller being a division) decided to shut down the plant in Kalamazoo since times were hard and they had other plants that could handle all the work that was done in Kalamazoo.

None of the union help was offered a job at the other plants since they were non-union. John eventually obtained a job at National Water Lift in Kalamazoo, Michigan. After about five years he was laid off by them and was never called back. The last I knew he was working odd jobs to survive.

John is quite handy with his hands and can do a number of things like welding, construction and bartending.

From the early years in junior high school until about his thirties, John liked to ride on and in things that moved fast. Starting with the boat I bought that was close to being a hydroplane (Grandma Lillie Penix Powers also liked to ride in the boat) to the car ('55 Chev) my father first sold to him after high school graduation where he replaced the six cylinder engine with a V8, to several

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racing boats, to snow mobiles and lastly to motorcycles. He still has and uses a motorcycle (he says women love them).

John married **Judith Annette Hernacki** on August 29, 1964. Judith was born on July 5, 1942 in Detroit, Michigan. Her parents are Joseph Thomas Hernacki born on March 17, 1918 and died on October 18, 1980 and Lucille Agnes Kowalczewski born on October 21, 1918 and died on July 21, 1992.

Judith grew up in Detroit, Grand Rapids and Warren, Michigan. She graduated from Warren High School in 1960. She attended Western Michigan University and graduated with a two year Secretarial Certificate in 1964.

After graduation, Judith worked at the General Motors Tech Center, Fisher Body Division in Warren, Michigan. During the marriage she worked at

Western Michigan University in the Industrial Engineering Department as a secretary.

After their divorce on July 11, 1977, Judith moved to Beaverton, Michigan and began working for Brown Machine as an Ad Coordinator which continued for about ten years. She then began working for Lyle Industries in Beaverton, Michigan as an Ad Coordinator where she has now worked for the last 8 1/2 years.

Judith is a member of the Society of Plastic Engineers and is on the Advisory Board of Mid Michigan Community College.

Judith was the author of a chapter in Society of Plastics Industry "Engineering Handbook". She describes her expertise as "Technical writing, coordination of large meetings, functions and trade shows."

They had two children in their marriage. After they were married, my father sold John the old house that we were raised in, which John proceeded to fix up. After his divorce from Judy, he eventually moved to another house in Parchment, Michigan which was just a few miles from his old house. He is still living in that house today.

After his divorce John married **Charlene Smith Wills** on September 2, 1882. John and Charlene divorced in September 1984. Charlene had two children from a previous marriage named Kimberly Smith born on September 18, 1871 and Andrew Smith born on May 5, 1971. Kimberly is now married to Christopher Beals and they have one daughter Britney Deanne Beals born on January 13, 1992. At one time John had rented, then sold the old house (the one where we were raised) to Kimberly and



Judith Penix

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Kim Smith at the age of 14 years.



Lisa Penix at the age of one year.

her husband but then got it back when payments were not made. The last I knew, John was still trying to sell the old house and had told me that he thought he had a buyer.

Children of John and Judy Penix are:

◇ **Lisa Penix** was born on April 9, 1965 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. Her schooling started in the Kalamazoo Public Schools in Kalamazoo, Michigan, continued at Beaverton Schools in Beaverton, Michigan for 7th and 8th grade and her high school was completed at Gladwin Schools in Gladwin, Michigan with graduation from High School in 1983. Lisa also attended Mid-Michigan Community College in Harrison, Michigan for the 1984-1985 school year.

On December 29, 1990, Lisa



Lisa Penix with her brother Bill at Bill's graduation from college.

married **Timothy Ty Doane**. Timothy was born on March 8, 1960 in Clare,

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Michigan. He is the son of Kenneth Leroy Doane and Gloria Sue Carper. Timothy has three brothers, one of which is his twin and one sister. Timothy enjoys fishing (and telling fish stories) and woodworking. Timothy and his twin



Timothy Doane.

brother were both born with cerebral palsy due to being born three 3 months early. The two weighed only five pounds together at birth. The palsy affects Tim's legs only.

Lisa told me that she met Timothy at a canned good sale in a super market. Having met and talked to Timothy, I can tell you that he was the best bargain Lisa found that day.

Lisa has worked at McDonalds, house cleaning, a nursing home in the medical records section, Antler Arms Senior Center and is presently working for an Insurance agency. Timothy has



Tim and Lisa Doane.

worked at the rehab center and wants to obtain a job in a factory, but has had no offers to date.

Lisa also does some cake decorating and would like a new kitchen so she can become a baker full time. Lisa likes to sew, crochet and work out crossword puzzles.

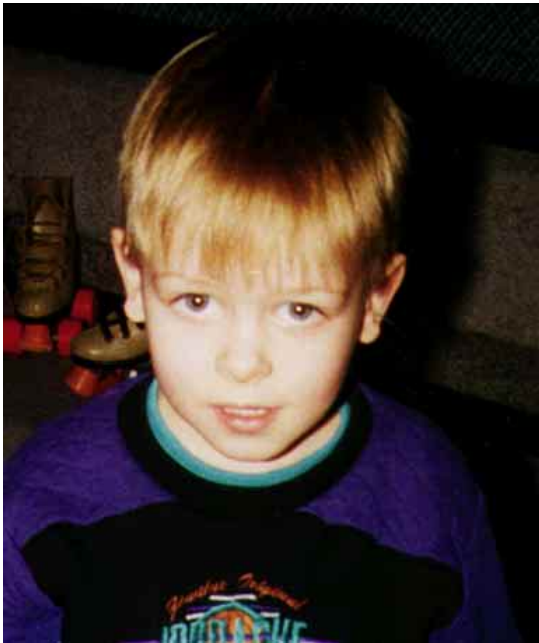
When asked for interesting stories about herself, Lisa told me that when she first started going with Timothy that he had an outside toilet (Outhouse for you youngsters.). Lisa didn't like going to the outhouse because of Timothy's weird neighbor, so Timothy gave her the dog dish to use inside the house. When Timothy went outside to empty the dish, his finger became caught and he ended getting most of what he was tossing away on himself.

Children for Lisa and Tim Doane are:

- **Todd Patrick Doane** born on July 25, 1991. Todd was quite smart at a very young age. He learned to bark like the dogs before he could say mama or daddy. He is very active as evidenced by the fact that he is the

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Todd Doane this year.



Alyssa Doane at five weeks.

only three year old to ever have been kicked out of day care (for the day

only) for being disruptive. One of the problems with smart children is trying to keep them busy and out of trouble. Todd knows his ABC's and his numbers. Todd also told his mother the specials in the newspaper at the age of three by looking at the picture, telling her what it is and then telling her the price.

- **Alyssa Doane** born April 9, 1996.

- ◊ **William Joseph Penix** was born on February 6, 1971 in Kalamazoo, Michigan. He attended Kalamazoo, Beaverton and Gladwin Public Schools. He graduated from Gladwin High School and attended Michigan Technical Institute in Houghton, Michigan. After graduating from college as an engineer, he started work in Gladwin for about a year and is now working for General Motors as an engineer.

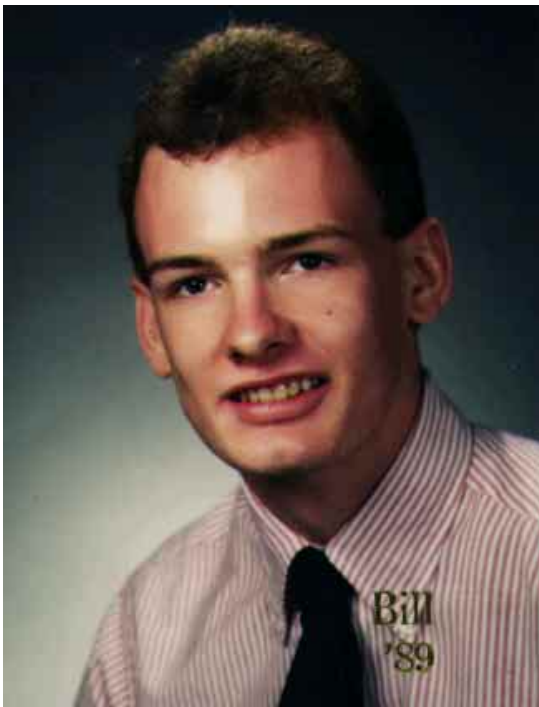
William married **Kimberly Marie Smith Wiltse** on June 1, 1996 in



William Penix at the age of 5.

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William Penix at graduation time.



Kimberly Wiltse at a young age.



Kimberly Wiltse with a pal recently.

Gladwin, Michigan. Kimberly is the daughter of Roger and Kay Wiltse. She was born on January 26, 1971. She has sisters Melissa Marie Dixon and Anne Marie Wiltse.

Kimberly graduated from Gladwin High School with William. She then studied one year at Graceland College in Lamonia, Iowa. She graduated Phi Theta Kappa from Mid Michigan Community College.

Kimberly lived two years in Neurnberg, Germany. She continues to study for an Elementary School Teaching Degree and hopes to one day be a teacher.

She is employed by Dr. Jeffery Patt, Chiropractic. She enjoys music, crafts, hunting and most of all, Bill (William). It is not hard to tell they are

newly weds when you look at the last thing she enjoys.