

A Linda Profile

I was born Linda Alice McLarty on June 5, 1947 in Rockford, Illinois. The Alice as my middle name has made me “unique” in our Linda Club because I only remember seeing two other Linda Alices at a convention. I got that middle name because it was a popular name on my Mother’s side of the family. My Mother’s name was Marie Alice and I always thought I should have been Linda Marie after her. My parents named me after hearing the Linda song on the radio. Sadly, both of them passed away before the Linda Club began, because I know they would have thought me going to the conventions was great.



I met George (my future love of my life and my husband of 52 years) when we were in 7th Grade. We were friends and then started dating at prom time our Senior year of high school. We were married 3 years later and then lived in Macomb, IL where George finished college at W.I.U. George graduated in March, 1970 and we planned on staying in Macomb with George working in the Ag department at the university. But he had come up with a low number (151) in that fishbowl drawing of birthdays for the draft. So he was drafted in June and I moved back home with my parents. I got pregnant when he was home on leave before being sent to Vietnam. He was sent to the dangerous jungles for the first 6 months and then a professor managed to get him out of there and get him in a safer place to teach the Vietnamese farming. I think back to that time now and wonder how I ever got through it. Of course, I was worried constantly and being pregnant. So it was a long, stressful year

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and our Dawn was almost 4 months before he got home safely. We are blessed! We have one daughter, Dawn Marie (not Alice!) and she is 49. She has blessed us with 2 awesome grandchildren –Tyler - 15 and Rachel - 13. Dawn is a 2nd Grade teacher and I was the “nanny-granny” for both kids until they went to school. We also have one son, Brian who is 47. He has never married and works in concrete construction. George and I live on the family farm. His grandparents lived here and then his parents and we have lived here since 1982.

I heard about the Linda Club from a Linda that was a teacher at our elementary school. I worked there as a lunchroom aide and then in the kitchen for 19 years. That Linda attended the first gathering in Cedar Rapids because her sister lived there and told her about it. So the next year 5 of us Pec Lindas went to Des Moines. I have enjoyed them all! So many laughs, good



memories
and fun
adventures,
right Linda
Buss?!

George
and I went
on a trip to
Alaska in
2008 and
we met
Larry and
Linda
Witek. I am
so happy
we now
have them

as our good friends and that Linda joined us. She is a sweetheart and a great addition to our club.

Cheers to all Lindas/Lyndas everywhere!

Linda Doty

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