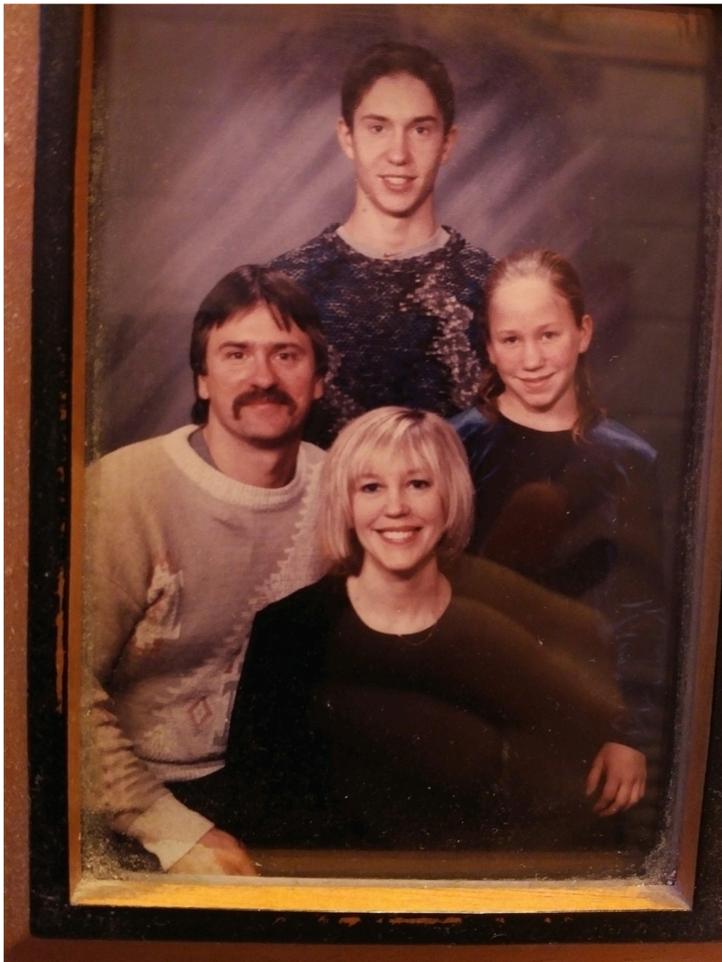


Linda Padgurskis

I was born on June 27, 1960 to parents, Anna and Paul Brasic. My sister Annette is 9 years older and my brother Carl, 5. My parents were already older when I was born. My mom was 36 and my dad 41. That was practically ancient when you are a child. Chicago is the only place I have ever lived, moving just an 8 mile radius my whole life. My mom grew up in Lynch, a small town in southeastern KY. I loved visiting this beautiful valley of Black Mountain. It was a different world compared to the hustle and bustle of Chicago. I can smell that wonderful scent the mountains would bring and the hospitality we were greeted with was second to none. This is where I learned the power of what nature holds, the relaxation it brings, the birds, the bugs and the trees above our heads so big and tall. Whenever we go on vacation and I am again enjoying nature, I go back to those wonderful memories.



My dad was orphaned along with his 6 siblings back in the 1920s. Each child was dispersed to various relatives, godparents or orphanages. Some ended up moving to other states as adults but those living in the Chicago area knew the importance of family and for many years, each sibling would host what was affectionately referred to as a “shindig” every few months. I grew up close to my aunts, uncles and cousins.

I met my husband at a friend’s birthday party a week after we both graduated high school. I knew there was something incredibly special about him and felt it immediately. He said he felt it also but didn’t call me for a date until 18 months later. We have been married now for 39 years. Our son, Aaron is 38 and daughter, Amy is 34.

I became a computer programmer when I was 21 and that was my profession for 18 years. When Aaron was 9 and Amy 5, I decided to go

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back to school at night while still working fulltime. I did that for 5 years and I would tell everyone I was on survivor mode. When I got my BA, Aaron graduated 8th grade so we had a double celebration party. I knew that I wanted to continue with more schooling so went on to get my MBA 4 years later. Aaron also graduated high school and Amy from grammar school so we had a triple celebration party.

About a year later I changed careers and I don't think my life was ever the same. I became a Financial Advisor and sold Insurance. I had my own radio program called the Linda P Show and also cohosted 3 other shows. I also published a book called P.H.I.S.H. and taught inspiration classes. For the last 6 years, I have worked at State Farm and love my job. I plan on retiring in about 3 years.

I have been with the LINDA Club for 13 years now. I was the youngest Linda just once, back in Branson, MO and I was lucky, because the other Linda was only 3 weeks older than me. Everyone who knows me, knows how much I love the LINDA Club. I joined the second I heard about it and can't stress enough how much fun I have had and the friendships I have made along with the beautiful memories I hold dear to my heart.

We have a lively household with our children with us and also our grandchildren, Isaiah, 14 and Ivy, 9. When I mention that everyone still lives at home and that includes grandchildren, I am told how lucky I am to experience their growing up first hand and being able to spend time with them. Love expands when a child is born and when it is a grandchild, it is even more grand.

If I was to define my life in 6 words, I would say: Gratitude and enthusiasm is the key.



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