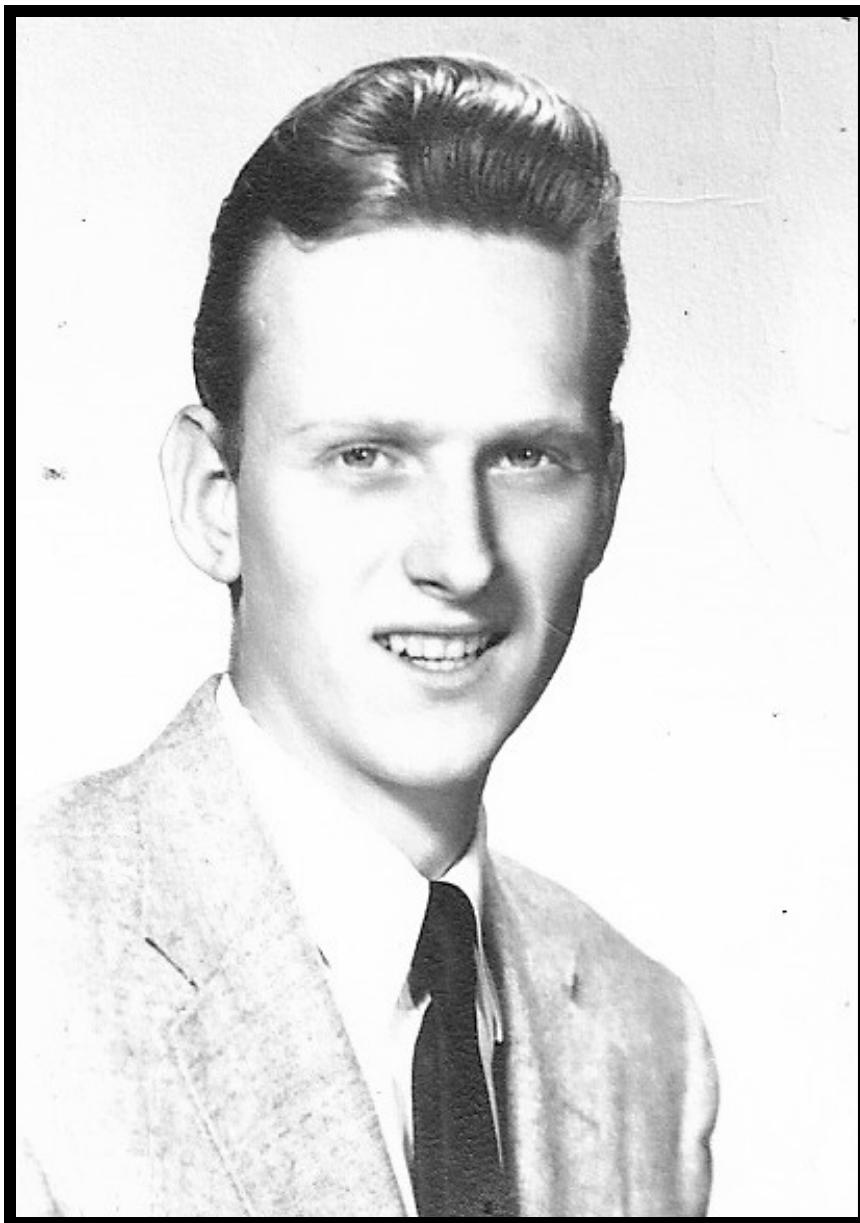


Celebration of Life



Volker Wyrenbeck
My lifelong friend !

Today, as we celebrate Volker's life, I recall so many of the adventures we made together. Our families were so close that we were known to all as 'cousins'. Of course we were not actual blood relatives but his parents and mine were friends from the beginning of their lives here in America. It came naturally.

Actually, Volker's mother, Erika and my mother Theresia, better known as Rosel were friends back in the old country before coming to America. Therefore, it was just natural that to me his parents were "Uncle Albert and Tante Erika" and mine to him were "Tante Rosel and Uncle Gustel". That by default, led everyone we knew as kids to think we were cousins. We liked it that way as we were very close growing up and so considered ourselves as such.

We were together as often as time and logistics would permit. Volker lived full time in the country, Somers and I lived full time in NY city. My parents had a country home in Somers so when we came up for the weekend or summer, we were always together. Volker spent time in the city with me as well.

As we grew older, Lynn & I married, Volker and Judy married, had family and eventually moved on north and our ability to remain very close slowly came to an end, but never forgotten as the following preserved pictures can attest. To his children Volker, Jeanie, Cindy and Tina whom I never got a chance to know, I hope this album will help you remember the great Dad your father was. I remember him as kind, gentle, soft spoken and never angry. He was a good mechanic, expert in his trade, fair minded and loved by all whom he knew.

God Bless all of you. Sincerely, Hubert Laubis



Gus Laubis, Anna Zittel, Uncle Albert, Rosel Laubis, and Tante Erika holding Volker
Girls are Hilde Zittel and my sister Elizabeth

Life in the Country At the Wyrenbeck's



Feeding the chickens



Playing in the sunshine!



Even in the snow

Life in the Country At the Laubis House



Riding bikes



Shooting B-B guns

Life in the City

..... At the Laubis House



Christmas
And trains were
A big event

Visits
For all
Special occasions



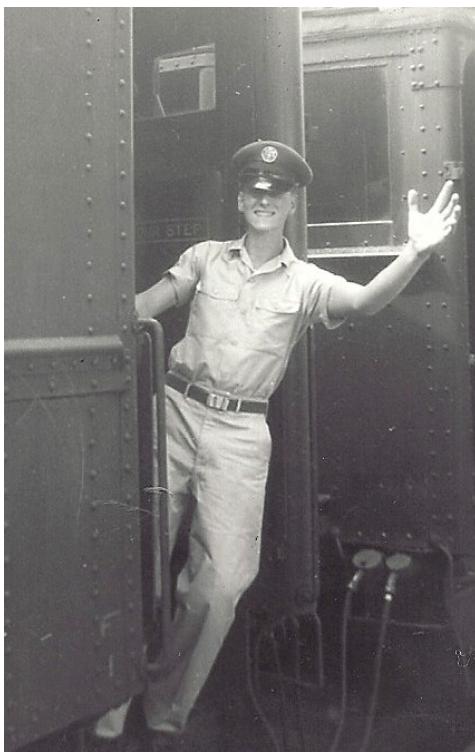
As we got older
We went together
And saw
All the city highlights

Getting Older

..... Time for new horizons!



Off
To serve our
country



Volker and I drove
To
The Peekskill
Railroad station.

Life Moves on....

Little Volker' Christening



Little Volker was Baptized
As a Lutheran in the
Good Sheppard Church
Granite, Springs, Somers NY

I stood up for him as Godfather

Time to say farewell
Good Buddy.... Till sometime later



Friends forever in Life
Volker, you will never be forgotten!
I Look forward to seeing you again one day in Heaven.

Love Hubert

The Last 30 Years....

Volker and I saw each other and spoke occasionally on the phone throughout the years. While Erika still lived in Somers, he would come visit her and my mother and father as well. We all looked forward to his rare but welcomed visits.

A few years ago, Lynn & I while on vacation, visited Volker and Laurie at his home for a day and had a lunch out with them also. We are so happy that we had that time together with them as it turned out to be the last.

Our best to you all and thank you for letting us share in Volker's remembrance.

Hubert & Lynn Laubis

On the following
pages I offer to you
some insight to your
heritage which you
may not have
Heard or seen
Before!

God Bless!

Info for the Family

Here are some pictures and perhaps some little know information about your grandparents which may be of interest to you.

Muggensturm

Das heute über 4000 Einwohner zählende Muggensturm wird urkundlich erstmals im Jahre 1193 geschichtlich erwähnt. Die erste Schreibweise „Mugelsturm“ verbirgt folgende Deutungsmöglichkeit: Die Zusammenziehung aus „muoreturm“ = befestigte Siedlung am Moor, am Landsee gelegen und uneinnehmbar, daher auch die Sage der „stürmenden Mucken“. Aus Mouchensturm im Jahre 1197 wurde 1249 Mukkensturm. Es dürfte aus dem in der Gegend des heutigen Friedhofes gelegenen, aber schon viele Jahrhunderte verschwundenen Orte Eichelbach hervorgegangen sein. Die unter Denkmalschutz stehende Margaretenkirche war die Pfarrkirche von Eichelbach. Dieselbe wurde während des Dreißigjährigen Krieges zum Teil zerstört. In günstiger Verkehrslage an der Strecke Frankfurt – Basel, wie auch in nächster Nähe der Autobahn gelegen zeichnet sich Muggensturm als geeignetes Ansiedlungsgebiet für die Industrie ab. Der Zugang zum schönen Murgtal und die Verbindung der Verkehrsstraßen B 3 Basel – Hamburg, sowie die Zufahrt zu dem Rheinhafen Karlsruhe begründet die günstige Lage. Das selbständige Handwerk ist durch größere und kleinere Betriebe vertreten. Erwähnt seien u. a. die folgenden Industrien: Metallverarbeitung: Fa. Hagen-Südwerk und Fa. Hermann Hornung; Papierindustrie: Kartonagenfabrik Lang und Co.; Steinzeugwarenfabrik; Textilverwertung Lömer; Wärme- und Kältetechnik Gross; Kieswerk Gebrüder Kaltenbach. Erwähnt werden muß ein Großunternehmen für Gemüsebau mit Konservenfabrik „Bad. Obst- und Frühgemüsebau“. Dieses Unternehmen hat in neuerer Zeit nach holländischem Muster in Freikultur ausgedehnte Tulpen- und Gladiolenfelder angelegt. Weit über Muggensturm hinaus ist die Kakteenzucht und Pflanzenanlage auf dem Prinzip der Hydrokultur bekannt.



Margaretenkapelle

This is Erika's home town.

The rest of Your family story



Probably the earliest picture of Erika here in America.
Picture taken in Baltimore MD along with my mother, my
grand-uncle, Franz-Josef and Rosa all who were here
from Muggensturm, Germany circa 1925



My mother and my sister with
your grandparents
Albert & Erika
In NY City, circa 1937

Erika was a wonderful friend,
homemaker and mother.
She also is missed!

Some History On Grandfather Albert

Little historical information is known by me about your grandfather. He was a very private individual and never said too much to us kids. My recollection is based on personal memories, experiences and conversations overheard while I was growing up.

As I recall, his origin in Germany was from the northern part, very unlike all the rest of your grandmother's friends who were from southern part of the country. This is interesting only to the fact that Germans, like us here, make interesting distinction between individuals from north and south. He arrived in America working on a German transa-atlantic Luxury Liner. His visit here to America was so impressive, he never got back on for the return trip.

He made the living for his family as a restaurant owner and off and on as a waiter in fine restaurants, both in NY city and close to home. In the 1940's and early '50s, he worked at the 'Artists and Writers' restaurant in mid-town. On nights on which he worked late, he often stayed at our apartment on 14th Street in Manhattan.

In the 1950's, Albert and Erika owned and ran the 'Terrace Restaurant' in the center of Yorktown Heights. They lived there and that is when Volker attended Yorktown schools and got to be a part of the Yorktown Heights group of kids. (continued)

Volker introduced me to Yorktown Heights kids as well and I still keep in touch with some of them today. I also presume that is during the time he met, Judy, who was part of that group as well. Volker was always well liked no matter where he went. He attended school also in Somers and had many friends there as well.

At some point, Albert sold the restaurant and went back to his waiter profession at a famous place on RT. 100 in Millwood called 'Traveler's Rest'. To my recollection, he worked there until his illness rendered him homebound. As an interesting sideline, my wife Lynn and I had our first dinner date at the restaurant and Uncle Albert took care of us that day.

Uncle Albert, my father Gus and Oswald Balodis were avid card players and spend at least one afternoon each week playing their favorite German card game 'Scaat'.

I recall all too well visiting the family at their Somers home during the years Uncle Albert was sinking into his memory loss illness. At that time, your Uncle, 'young' Albert, was living there with Karen and raising their children. Along with Erika, they cared for Uncle Albert to the very end.

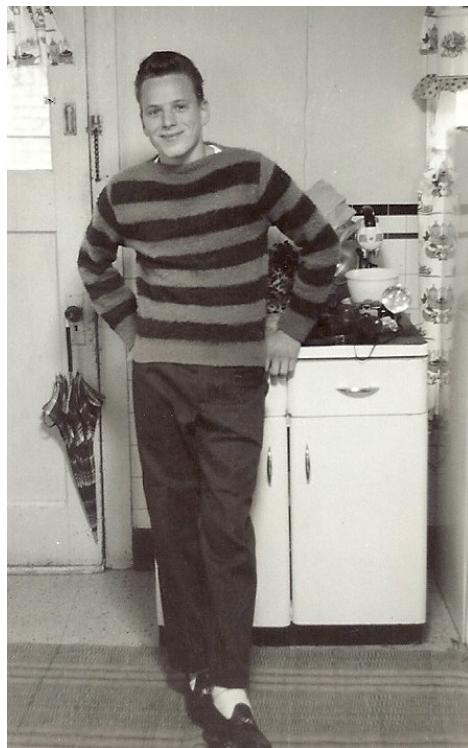
I must say that God will bless each of them for the care they gave to Albert during his final years, especially Erika and Karen who tended to his daily needs.

As I said earlier, Uncle Albert was a private person, a good provider, and a fine family man. You can all be proud. You come from good stock!

Finally....

Early Pictures

Your Uncle Albert - A good man!



Your Uncle Albert is seen here in the early 1960's. He passed on too young, a good person with a big heart.

In a long phone conversation at that time of his death, Volker and I remembered his brother as the good person he was.

