

GARY POLIDORI, North High Class of 1959

My maternal grandparents, Charles and Josephine Dispense, emigrated from Sicily in the late 1800's. From Italy they went to Buffalo, NY. My grandfather came to Colorado for treatment of tuberculosis in the 1920's. They settled in North Denver. My grandfather had a produce stand in the old Home Public Market. He sold produce until his retirement after World War II. My grandparents raised five children. My mother graduated from North High School in 1938.

Rocco Polidori, my paternal grandfather left Italy in the early 1900's. His family lived near Rome. He originally went to Chicago then to Magna, Utah where he worked in a copper smelter. My grandmother, Anna came from the Abruzzi, Italy area. Her family immigrated to Magna, Utah where she met and married my grandfather. They stayed in Utah until 1925 when they came to Denver, CO. They also settled in North Denver where they raised three children. They opened and operated a small corner grocery store.

My parents married in 1938. My father, who also attended North High School, worked as a traveling salesman and then for the railroad. During the war he worked as a civilian in Hawaii during the reconstruction of Pearl Harbor.

After World War II my father and his brother purchased the grocery store from my grandparents. They operated the store until 1982. After the sale of the grocery store my father started a wholesale meat business. His main product was Italian Sausage.

Several years ago my son Steven purchased the business from his grandfather and later brought my daughter Melodie into the business with him. They sell their product (Italian Sausage, Chorizo, breakfast sausage and brats) in Colorado and several other states. The product is marketed under the Polidori name.