

LARRY V. DAMIANA, North High Class of 1959



My Family, Aunts, Uncles, Cousins, Celebrating the end of WWII in San Leandro, California before returning to Colorado. Right to Left: Nick and Wilma-Frause-Smedra (Aunt & Uncle); Father Vince and Mother Edna-Frause-Damiana, Ellen and Charles Cito-Iannacito (Cousins), Ken and Mary Frause (Aunt & Uncle), (Left unidentified).

I was born at St. Joseph's hospital in Denver on September 9, 1941. I was one-month old when my paternal Grandfather Alex Damiana was killed in the Columbine mine near Erie, Colorado. My Grandmother, Angelina "Angie" Dilemma-Damiana, never remarried but moved to Denver where she worked for Brach's Candy Company.

My parents Vincent Damiana and Edna Frause grew up in Louisville, Colorado where almost everyone either worked in or were connected to the coal mines. WWII changed lives. My mother and father worked after high school in various jobs until WWII when my father worked for the government in Ogden, Utah. He later took a job in the shipyards at Oakland, California. We lived in San Leandro, California until 1946 when we moved back to Denver. We stayed with our cousins, Charles and Ellen Cito-Iannacito. My cousin Alan and I attended first grade at Edison together. Our mother's allowed us to take a street car or walk from 27th and Wolff all the way to and from Edison Elementary School. That wouldn't happen today.

My father worked for Oriental Refining Company in Commerce City. My mother worked as a model for Morganti Studios. We moved to W. 1st Ave. where I

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attended Barnum Elementary. We moved back to North Denver during my Junior High School and High School years. I attended Skinner Jr. High and North High.

In 1957, my father and Alan's father opened Machinery Reserve of Denver on 41st and Fox Street. Both Alan and I worked there after we were discharged from the U.S. Navy.

My parent's legacy was an interest in music. My father and Alan's father, Charles, played sax and clarinet. They worked with bands like the Dick LaSalle Orchestra, and the Heine Rugger Orchestra. Alan and I played in "Just Kids Band," in Junior High School.



Mother, Edna Damiana

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Chair Mountain Ranch, Marble, Colorado: Family Favorite Vacation Spot with my Family and Alan's Family in the 1940's



Larry Damiana c.1978



Father, Vince Damiana c.1978