

Gessler Family



The name Gessler literally spans the continents. Originally coming from Germany, there are presently four generations of Gesslers living: John A. Gessler Sr., 90 years old and living in Latrobe, Pennsylvania; John A. Gessler Jr., 61 years old and living in Frankenmuth, Michigan; John A. Gessler III, 36 years old and living in Sydney, Australia; and Shaun Hamilton Gessler, 8 years old and living in Sydney, Australia.

John A. Gessler Jr., a Frankenmuth resident since 1970, was born June 15, 1933 in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. His parents were John A. and Helen Louise nee Yanik Gessler. He was baptized and confirmed at Holy Family Church in Latrobe.

After high school he was an apprentice patternmaker for five years until he became journeyman wood patternmaker and model maker. From 1953-1955 he served during the Korean War as an Army Medical Corpsman.

On June 8, 1957 John married Elizabeth Kovach at St. Vincent Basilica in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. They had five children:

Janine Ann was born April 14, 1958. Janine has a bachelor of science in nursing and is a homemaker. She married David Hubinger from Frankenmuth on September 12, 1980. They had four children: Katherine Elizabeth born June 15, 1985; twins, Meagan Elizabeth and Christopher Michael born August 31, 1987; and David Michael born November 24, 1991. Janine was on the Bavarian Princess Court in 1977.

John A. Gessler III was born April 2, 1959. He married Helen Young on May 29, 1982.

They had two children: Shaun Hamilton born January 13, 1987 and Danielle Patrice born January 1, 1988. John has a degree in computer science and works for Thomson Sintra Pacific in Sydney, Australia.

Joyce Ann was born September 16, 1961. Joyce is a homemaker with a bachelors of Science degree in business and a degree as a Montessori Teacher, AMI certified. Joyce married Joseph Mello July 9, 1988. They had two children: Zachary Joseph born May 15, 1990 and Lauren Elizabeth born August 20, 1993. Joyce was the 1980 Bavarian Princess.

Therese Marie was born September 16, 1963. Therese is a homemaker with a Bachelor of Arts degree in psychology, a Masters degree in education, as well as a degree as a Montessori Teacher, AMI certified. She married Mark Rodammer of Frankenmuth. They had two children: Nicholas Mark born September 18, 1992 and Noah Alexander born January 3, 1994.

Michael Scott was born August 27, 1965. Michael has a degree in business administration and works for Nestle Holdings, Inc. Michael married Cynthia Brannon on March 25, 1995. They live in California.

John A. Gessler Jr. was already talented in woodworking in high school where he received various awards. He also received a commendation from the United States Army for his service during the Korean War.

John's grandfather and grandmother, John A. and Cecilia nee Bridge Gessler, were born in Germany, 1871 and 1867 respectively, and came to the United States in 1889, settling in Latrobe, Pennsylvania. His grandfather died in 1907 and his grandmother died December 31, 1956.



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