The Sparks name came to this area through Arthur Sparks, who often stopped to eat at Fischer’s Hotel, now the Bavarian Inn Restaurant. He met a waitress there, which eventually led to marriage and establishing a home in Frankenmuth in 1935. Arthur Woodburn Sparks (Sparky) was born June 1, 1914 at Entrican, Michigan to John Leroy and Pearl nee Crooks Sparks. He was working at the A.C. Sparkplug plant in Flint, Michigan when he met Lenora Zucker of Frankenmuth. Lenora was born March 7, 1911 to John and Katherine nee Dittmar Zucker. Sparky and Lenora were married at St. Lorenz Lutheran Church on August 28, 1935.

Sparky found employment with the Frankenmuth Brewery, Hubinger Lumber and Baker Builders. From 1962 until his death March 15, 1982, he worked at St. Lorenz Lutheran School as custodian. He found satisfaction working with the children as a bus driver, a crossing guard and daily contact in other ways. The children of St. Lorenz adored him and dedicated their yearbook to him. Sparky also assisted the Frankenmuth Police Department, enjoyed hunting, fishing and outdoor sports. Arthur and Lenora had seven daughters.

Lois P. Sparks was born September 10, 1935. She attended St. Lorenz Lutheran School, Frankenmuth High School and graduated from Arthur Hill High School in 1954. She worked for Frankenmuth State Bank for 10½ years, and from 1981 on, was a cook at St. Lorenz Lutheran School. She married Carl Roeglin August 22, 1964. They had two sons: Charles Arthur, born March 21, 1965 and Brent Lee, born February 16, 1970.

Sandra K. Sparks was born October 21, 1939. She attended St. Lorenz and Frankenmuth High School. She was crowned Miss Frankenmuth in 1956. Sandra worked for Satow Drug Store for over 40 years. Sandra married William Helmuth Kern April 29, 1961 and they had two children: Sheryl Kay, born June 21, 1965 and Kris William, born February 18, 1970.


Jacqueline Sue Sparks was born October 9, 1945. She attended St. Lorenz, Frankenmuth High School and Murphy Beauty School. She was employed at Uptown Beauty Salon in Frankenmuth. Jacqueline married James Erwin Brechtelsbauer December 5, 1964 and they had one son, Jeffrey Neil.

