

## Sam Perrecone and Marie (Saporito) Perrecone



My name is Frank Perrecone, son of Samuel (Sam) Perrecone and Marie (Saporito) Perrecone. Sam and Marie were born in Rockford, Illinois. In 1954, they married at St. Anthony of Padua Church in Rockford. My two brothers, Luke Perrecone and Paul Perrecone, and I were born in Rockford. Our family roots stem from two towns in Sicily, Lucca and Corleone. My Perrecone grandparents were Charles (Carlo) and Anna Perricone. They were born and married in Lucca. They entered the United States through Ellis Island in 1915. They had eight sons. In 1929, Charles founded a family business which for many years operated at 154 Morgan Street selling coal, lumber, ice and other items. My father and his brothers worked in the business of many years. Charles died in 1974. Anna died in 1975. My Saporito grandparents were Louis (Luca) Saporito and Lucy (Luchina Bruscatto) Saporito. Louis was born in Corleone. At age 14 he entered this country through Ellis Island. Lucy was born in Taft, Saint Charles Parish, Louisiana. Her parents were from Corleone and lived in Louisiana before moving the family to Rockford. Louis and Lucy had three boys and a daughter. Louis worked for 25 years at J.I. Case retiring in 1956. Louis died in 1981. Lucy died in 1995. I grew up in south Rockford which was an area predominantly comprised of Italian-Americans. We lived at 1201 Clover Avenue which had been the home of my Perrecone grandparents and their eight sons, and later my uncle Peter Perrecone and his family. The house was across the street from Colletti Grocery Store. We lived in the house from 1954 to 1970, with the exception of about 18 months when we lived in Arizona. In the mid 1960s to late 1970s many Italian-American families were moving from the neighborhoods around St. Anthony Church to the north and east sides of the city. My family moved from south Rockford in 1970 to a house on the east side located at 630 Hemlock Lane, where my parents still reside. My parents have been in the bakery and restaurant business for over 30 years, first operating Sunny Boy Bakery, located at the corner of Winnebago Street and Montague Street and later Pinos Pizza, located on Forest Hills Road. My father and two brothers continue to operate the restaurant.

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