



2015 Grand Marshals

Fay & Max Meyer

Lifetime residents Max & Fay Meyer are being honored as this year's Harvest Festival Grand Marshals. Married 52 years the Meyer's were also classmates at Monroeville High School. "We were part of a rowdy class in high school, when we graduated, Principal Martin announced that he was glad to see us go." Fay remembers when Max asked her on their first date, "I asked my Mom if I could go out with Max Meyer and she said "No he's

married!" "Oh no, I replied, not Railroad Max, it's Junkyard Max" On one of their early dates, Max recalls; "We had gone to the drive-in to see Ben Hur, and the epic scene of the chariot race had not yet played when I realized what time it was and we had to get going. If I wasn't in by midnight my mother would lock the door and then kill me. I dropped off Fay then raced home taking the curves much like a scene from the movie, that's when I saw the lights in my rear view mirror. I pleaded my case to Officer "Tiny" Renier and he let me go. Then he proceeded to follow me home and turned on the lights again when he pulled in the drive behind me. "Now your Mom will know where you're at" he said. The couple have many lifelong friends, but adventures with Don & Joanne Mourey seem to bring back the funniest memories. "Don, Joanne, Max and I were on vacation and came through Nashville, TN. Tammy Wynett had just died and I wanted to go down past the Ryman and see if we could spot any famous people. We couldn't believe our luck, a free parking space downtown, so we pulled in and went around back of the Ryman Theater, the door was open, so, in we went. A lady handed us a program and we were seated in the balcony, it was an unbelievable experience. "We enjoyed the talents of one famous singer after another, everyone in their fashionable best and us in our vacation clothes."

She: Born Fay Smith, the daughter of Edwin and Fayma and the sixth of ten children. The family farm was located in Jackson township and Fay attended Jackson School and then Monroeville High School. "When the school bus picked up our family, then the Castleman's and Bower's kids, the bus was nearly full, a lot of large families were our neighbors. " "Our childhood was filled with farm chores like feeding livestock, chickens and gardening, Mother had a very large garden" "Mother was an even tempered woman, an excellent cook and a talented seamstress and crocheter, she and Dad were both really hard workers" Chicken butchering day was a family event as they formed an assembly line of responsibility, then the neighborhood was invited over for a chicken fry. Our close knit family gathered every Sunday for fried chicken, mashed potatoes, gravy and cole slaw each week, even long after we were all married and had children of our own. " She inherited her parents work ethic, starting first at the Community restaurant, then the IGA, Rea Magnet Wire, the Post

Office for thirty years (where she served as Monroeville Postmaster for 18 years) and then St. Joseph Hospital for 11 years.

He: The third son of Ludwig and Rosella (Malloy) Meyer . The Meyer family raised their five sons on W. South St. where Dr. Giant's practice now stands. " Our mother worked so hard maintaining the household and working as the bookkeeper for Meyer Auto " " She was very intelligent and had been the valedictorian of her high school class, my father too, was very bright, he only had an 8th grade education, but was the vice president of the bank when he died at age 49. My mother lived to be 95, I asked her once why she never remarried and she replied " With five boys, who the heck is going to come knocking at my door"

Grandfather Ludwig " Louie" Meyer immigrated to the US around 1918, " he worked and then sent for my Grandmother, Dad, Aunt and Uncle, my father was eleven when he came over " By 1924 Grandfather Ludwig had started a business in Meyer Auto and would pass the business down to his son and then grandsons.

Five tight knit brothers (Bruce, Lynn, Max, Louie, Phil) raced home on foot every day for lunch. " I can't tell you how many blocks it was from St. Rose to our house, we didn't bother with blocks, we went through lawns, over fences and make a direct route as possible. We had twenty minutes for lunch and we had to get home and back in time, Mom was always waiting.

His first job was a paper route at nine years old, " I picked up my bundle at Dick Gerardot's Service Station, folded the papers and loaded them on my bike after school each day. When I was a Sophomore, my Dad informed me that I needed to start working at the shop. For 55 years I worked at Meyer Auto , along with 40 years being a part of the EMS, and 25 years as township trustee. "

The couple are the proud parents of daughters Lori (Jeff) and Kim and were blessed with seven grandchildren in Kyle, Ashley, Abby, Alisha, Johnathan, Haley and Emmie and two Great Granddaughters in Sophia and Adeline. "Raising the girls was a joy, they were easy to raise. They had a great group of friends that became like an extended family and they participated in a lot of activities at school that we enjoyed supporting "