

40th Storyworth: What Were Your Childhood Family Moves Like?

This one is going to be short, mostly because I remember very little before my teen years, and all our family moves had occurred by the time I was nine. Prior that I know I had been born in the Bronx, then we had lived in Ellenville at a funeral home where my Dad was the Funeral Director, then in East Hyde Park while my Dad was a Fuller Brush Salesman, with a brief time in Syracuse as a Manager for them, before returning to the village of Hyde Park on Kirchner Ave as previously written about. I lived there long enough to have been at Regina Coeli Catholic School from at least the fourth grade, because my parents moved me to the Hyde Park Elementary School midway through the sixth grade because my contemporaries there were learning about jet engines while we had not even cracked the science book spine by then.

And I recall very little of any of those moves. Frankly, the first move I recall was my going away to Clarkson, which was pretty lame, as most everything of my life remained at my Hyde Park home while I was there, and I do recall the various jobs I worked while living there between school years at Clarkson. Obviously, my first real move on my own, therefore, was to my first professional job at Fafnir Bearing in New Britain CT after my graduation from Clarkson as a Mechanical Engineer, working in their Grind and Hone section.

That move was in concert with my then fiancé Lynne, who would become my wife the following September. Mostly it was done with what fit my '63 Bel Air Station Wagon, which was not much, and Lynne followed a brief period after I did because she wanted to find employment beforehand, which she did with the Visiting Nurses in New Britain, which was the start of her Public Health experience. So we moved her using both my car and her '66 Chevy Chevelle Wagon, the car she had bought in Chittenango NY (small world, right? ;-)) to replace her '69 Toyota Corolla which had been destroyed the previous April 1 on her way up to me, and about which I wrote recently about getting married. At the time she was doing her "practical" semester at Syracuse, and had been the "mother hen" for a bunch of girls who rented a house near the SU campus. So I had helped her with that as well. One specific item of note was her bed, which became our first furniture in New Britain.

That place was a single bedroom small apartment on the west side of town, so we had very little furniture for our subsequent move from there, which was from New Britain to Collinsville CT when we bought our first Condo from the bank in Whispering Pines, a two bedroom end unit which was just outside Avon CT, which is where I first drooled over the Signature Series 1976 Porsche 911S Targa they had there, and the salesman who offered me the keys for a test drive. When I demurred because of my absolute inability to afford such an item, he told me "You will". If he only knew ;-)

Our next move was only nine months after we first moved there, when I was laid off by Fafnir, so we moved to Liverpool NY and the house we bought there after I got the job with Rollway, which was a quarter mile south, and we lived there until our divorce so many years later. So I don't really recall a lot about moving as a child either way. Sorry ;-)

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