

My name is Peter J. Vanden Heuvel. I was born in Little Chute in 1984. My parents are John P. and Mary (Hermsen) Vanden Heuvel.

I married Dora Hietpas, daughter of Nicolas and Christine (Weyenberg) Hietpas, in 1923. We have (9) children, Lloyd (Jane), Clarence (Ursula), Jerome (Noreen), Eugene (Elizabeth), Dolores (Mike Machurich), Donna (Robert Welch), Kenneth (Anne), and Barbara (Mike Kons).

As a young man, from age 15 thru 24, I worked at the Little Chute Pulp mill and Kimberly Clark, Bleach Plant.

I then served the country, in the Army, during WWI, with the 25th Machine Gun Battalion at Montgomery Alabama.

After the war and along with my brother John, we purchased the Little Chute Motor Inn on Depot Street; present day occupant is The Cinder Care Daycare Center. In 1936 we purchased the service station on the SW corner of Grand Avenue and Main Street from Peter Gloudemans, followed by a new building adjacent to it. This accommodated a Chevrolet franchise that we acquired. We serviced cars and trucks along with the sale of gasoline until 1940 when I purchased John's portion, dissolving the partnership.

I lost my wife within this period of my life, April 1st 1938 to be exact, which left me with some real challenges. With the help of family, friends, and community, life, raising a family, and running a business continued.

In 1946 I sold the Chevrolet franchise and garage, but continued to operate the service station until retirement in 1959 when my son Gene took over the operation. All of my sons helped at one time or another.

I fondly remember all the card games played on the candy display case. Brothers and friends frequented daily for a morning session.

The service station building was later rented to Bill Moerhing and eventually sold to Jerome and Tom Verhagen, for development.

I have been and will always be very proud of my family and my time on earth. I died after a full life at the age of 90 on March 2, 1985.

My name is Peter Vanden Heuvel and I am Peter J.'s grandson. Thank you for attending and have a great day.

Little Chute Historical Society Cemetery Walk 2011





