



Tournament dedication- Herm Raad

Herm comes from an enterprising family. Herm's family immigrated to the US from the Netherlands in the mid 1950's. After a brief stay in Carbondale IL, the Raad family bought a farm and settled down on the northside of Holland. Herm went to school in the West Ottawa school district, and graduated from West Ottawa High School. He was a youth bowler for a time at Northland Lanes. He had many jobs as a teen including trimming trees and blueberry picking, at Dutch Boy bakery, as a truck driver and testing jet engines at Thermatron. After high school, Herm went to Michigan State University, graduating with a degree in Urban Planning.

Married and with Erin, his 1st daughter, Herm's family moved to the Detroit area so that he could enroll in the MBA program at Wayne State University. While at Wayne State, Herm worked at First Federal Savings of MI in the marketing department, using his Urban Planning experience. Just around the time he was to graduate from WSU with his MBA in Finance, Herm's mom called and asked for advice about selling the farm. Herm and his wife Nancy decided to buy the farm and moved back to Holland to settle down with their daughter Erin and new baby Megan. Herm worked for Old Kent Bank in the commercial loan department for a number of years. During this time, Steven was born and Herm worked on many projects around the farm.

Herm decided to leave banking and became an entrepreneur in 1989. Herm became involved in commercial real estate investments and bought a woodworking business Prime Wood Products. The woodworking business produced many products including Billiard Spectator chairs, some of which were used in the movie "The Color of Money." In 2003-2004 (*I am not sure of this date*) Herm bought Northland Lanes and the rest is history.

This is where Belle takes over the narrative. Let me know if you need any more information.

One thing you might add is that Herm's mom was always very proud of Herm's enterprising spirit, and his independence in finding success