

Personal Biography for: Joseph (Stanislaus) Anthony Kolenda  
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As a child and up until I was 23 years old I lived at 416 W. Cherry Street (Navy service included). It was a friendly town with a lot of happy memories. In our young years my friends and I played games and such with homemade articles. For a football we would stuff a cloth salt bag with rags. We played stick ball with a rubber ball and broomstick for a bat on the street. We made ski's from barrel staves or split bamboo for the hard icy snow. It was fun until I got older.

At seventeen years of age I joined the navy in 11<sup>th</sup> grade. Got honorably discharged in 1946 and went on to graduate high school. Went to two G.I. sponsored schools for one year each. Namely – Packard Electronic and Practical Arts (mechanical drawing).

In 1951 I went to Norristown and got a job at a refractories plant, which made brick and castings for ovens that steel melted in. There I had my accident and stayed with them until they closed.

I met Gramma [Frances Tobinas] who was a friend of my sister Rita in Shenandoah. We met again in Norristown and became engaged in 1954 and married in 1955. From then our family began.