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Finding aid for the Latzek family photographs Collection 490

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Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections
Department

111 Library Street NE
Grand Rapids, Michigan 49503

localhis@grpl.org

URL: <http://www.grpl.org>

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Summary Information

Repository:	Grand Rapids Public Library, Grand Rapids History and Special Collections Department
Source:	Novosad, Peggy
Title:	Latzek family photographs
ID:	Collection 490
Date [inclusive]:	1900-1965
Physical Description:	2 Linear Feet 2 boxes; 1 slim and 1 over-sized flat, 1 flat file folder
Abstract:	Felix W. Latzek was born on 14 February 1895 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. He was a Union Bank and Trust Co. manager and a part-time funeral director at the Latzek Funeral Home, founded by his father, Frank Latzek. Felix married Genevieve Vanderhoff (1901-1979) in June of 1922 and they had one daughter, Vivian Latzek Kommer. Vivian's daughter, Peggy Kommer Novosad donated the material for this collection. The collection includes photographs of the Latzek family, their religious community and employees of the Grand Rapids National Bank. This collection may be of interest to those researching the Polish community, particularly the Polish Catholic community, on the northwest side of Grand Rapids, Michigan.

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Biographical / Historical

Felix W. Latzek was born to Frank and Francis (Lipinski) Latzek on 14 February 1895 in Grand Rapids, Michigan. Felix was a Union Bank and Trust Co. manager and was part-time director at the Latzek Funeral Home, founded by his father, Frank Latzek. Initially, Frank Latzek worked as undertaker and Felix was the clerk. Felix was also co-owner of the Derezinski Funeral Home with Chester L. Derezinski. That business closed in 1974. Felix served in the U.S. Navy during World War I and was also involved in several veteran's groups such as the Catholic War Veterans and the Catholic Order of Foresters. Felix married Genevieve Vanderhoff (1901-1979) in June of 1922 and they had one daughter, Vivian Latzek Kommer. Vivian's daughter, Peggy Kommer Novosad donated this collection. Felix Latzek died on 31 July 1977 in Grand Rapids and is buried in Holy Cross Cemetery. Genevieve Latzek died in Grand Rapids on 31 July 1979, exactly two years after Felix, and is buried in Greenwood Cemetery.

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Scope and Contents

The Latzek family photograph collection includes individual and group photographs of the Latzek family, some identified. Also included in the collection are photographs of the Latzek's religious community, school and employees of the Grand Rapids National Bank.

The following newspapers were discarded from the collection due to their deteriorating condition, but can be viewed on microfilm in the Grand Rapids Public Library Local History and Special Collections Department:

The Grand Rapids Herald 10-24-1952

The Grand Rapids Press Local Page, Section Two 04-22-1961

The Grand Rapids Press Local and State pages 05-06-1957

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Immediate Source of Acquisition

Collection was donated to the Grand Rapids Public Library by Peggy Kommer Novosad, granddaughter of Felix and Genevieve Latzek.

Accession 2019.049

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Related Materials

Related Materials

Latzek Funeral Home Collection 157

Emily Latzek Jennings Family Photograph Collection 234

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Controlled Access Headings

- Grand Rapids (Mich.) -- History
- Kent County (Mich.) -- History -- Photographs
- Polish Americans -- Michigan -- Grand Rapids -- History
- Novosad, Peggy

Collection Inventory

Photographs		
Photograph of three unidentified women taken in a studio. Studio information appears to be in Polish.	Box 1	Folder 1
Photograph postcard of two unidentified men and a woman.	Box 1	Folder 2
Outdoor group photograph. Individuals unidentified.	Box 1	Folder 3
Large house, likely Fourth and Stocking Streets NW, with five unidentified men standing in front	Box 1	Folder 4
Felix Latzek's class at St. Adalbert's school	Box 1	Folder 5
Felix Latzek, likely his confirmation photograph	Box 1	Folder 6
Postcard book from Marseille, France. Written in it are the names of 33 men "in my charge in Marseille Harbor.", 1919-06-25	Box 1	Folder 7
Felix Latzek - U.S. Navy uniform	Box 1	Folder 8
Grand Rapids National Bank, reopening day with crowd in front, 1924-07-12	Box 1	Folder 9
Funeral of MSGR. Skory, 1935-03-11	Box 1	Folder 10

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Large, unidentified organization dinner, likely in the Civic Theater	Box 1	Folder 11
Group photograph in front of Latzek-Lipinski mausoleum; Felix Latzek second row, far left, hat in hand	Box 1	Folder 12
Clique bowling, Genevieve (Gen) Latzek back row, right	Box 1	Folder 13
Camp Fire Girls - Grand Rapids Lion's Club; three group photographs, two undated, one dated, 1965-06-17	Box 1	Folder 14
St. Adalbert's class photograph	Box 2	Folder 1
St. Adalbert's class photo, Felix Latzek fourth boy from left, directly behind teacher	Box 2	Folder 2
Group photos of children in costume	Box 2	Folder 3
Second Annual Francis Vanderhoff Reunion, Johnson Park, 1934-07-14	Box 2	Folder 4
Grand Rapids National Bank Picnic, 1925-07-28	Box 2	Drawer FF.IX.A
Grand Rapids National Bank Picnic (two identical prints), 1924-07-22	Box 2	Drawer FF.IX.A
Miscellaneous		
Officers, Kent County, Michigan; from an unknown publication, 1928-1929	Box 2	Folder 5
Plat map of NW section of Grand Rapids, bordered by Bridge, Seward, Sibley and Straight Streets	Box 2	Folder 6
Poem about Mothers, compliments of J.Prawdzik, Grocer	Box 2	Folder 7