

THOMAS DAVID KNAPP

(Written text and photographs provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Thomas David Knapp** was born September 6, 1962, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He was the son of C. Gordon and Rosalie Kay (Payne) Knapp. Thomas David Knapp married **Lori Thorsen** on December 19, 1992, at the Aastad Church in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Lori Thorsen was born on August 5, 1963, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and was the daughter of Truman and Donna Thorsen. Lori Thorsen attended Fergus Falls Minnesota Community College and Lansing Community College in Lansing, Michigan. Thomas David and Lori (Thorsen) Knapp had two children: **Katherine Knapp**, born May 19, 1995, in Lansing, Michigan, and **Michael Knapp**, born June 16, 1999, in Breckinridge, Minnesota.



A photograph of Thomas David Knapp taken when he was 4-5 years of age.



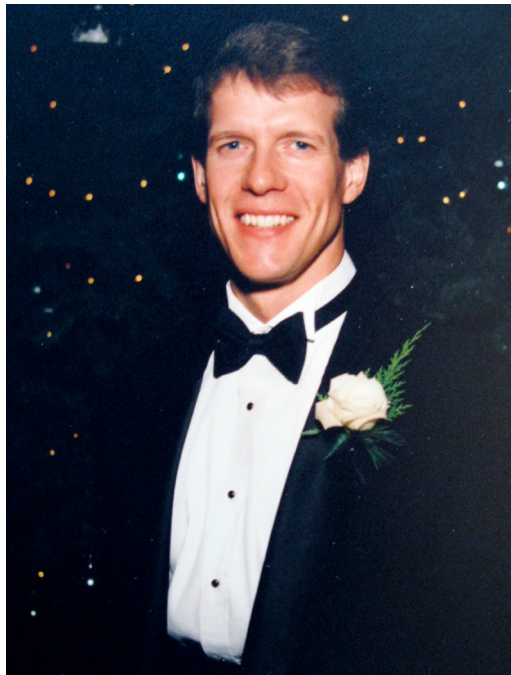
A High School graduation picture of Thomas David Knapp taken in 1981.



A photograph taken of Thomas David Knapp and Lori Thorsen prior to their marriage.



Thomas David Knapp as a Sports race car driver.



A photograph of Thomas David Knapp on his wedding day, December 19, 1992.



A photograph of Lori Thorsen on her wedding day, December 19, 1992.



A photograph after the wedding ceremony of Thomas David Knapp and Lori (Thorsen) Knapp that took place at the Aastad Church in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on December 19, 1992. Their parents also are shown. From left to right are: Donna Thorsen, Truman Thorsen, Lori (Thorsen) Knapp, Thomas David Knapp, Rosalie Kay (Payne) Knapp and C. Gordon Knapp.



A 2006 photograph depicting the family of Thomas David and Lori (Thorsen) Knapp. Shown from left to right are: Michael Knapp, Thomas David Knapp, Lori (Thorsen) Knapp, and Katherine Knapp.

Sports



Sidelines

By Gary McVey

Knapp enjoys his winning ways

Tom Knapp is racing through life at 140 miles per hour. And he wants to go even faster.

Knapp, a native of Foxhome, races Sports 2,000 cars all over the country, and he does quite well at it. He's won six of the eight races he's entered this year and earned paydays of up to \$2,000.

This weekend, Knapp will be at Brainerd International Raceway, and he'll be after a large chunk of the \$10,000 purse in the Sports 2,000 race. The Sports 2,000 scheduled for 1:55 p.m. Sunday is part of the Pepsi Grand Prix Weekend at BIR that includes four other races — the Bendix Brake Trans-Am, Formula Atlantic, Northland Ford Cup Formula Ford and the Vintage Car. Practice laps and qualifying runs for Sunday's races begin at 9 a.m. Saturday. Warmups for the main events will start at 9:10 a.m. Sunday, with the races to follow beginning at 11 a.m.



Tom Knapp

This weekend will be special for Knapp. He'll be racing in front of a home crowd that will include his father, Gordy, and his mother, Rosalie.

"This is the one I've been looking forward to be quite a while, says Knapp, 22. "It'll be nice to race in front of a home crowd for a change."

Knapp, who now resides in East Lansing, Mich., was in Mansfield, Ohio last weekend where he won his sixth race of the season. He's also made stops in Kansas City and St. Louis since the first of the year.

Sports 2,000 cars are often called miniature Can-Ams. The car has a 2,000 cubic inch four-cylinder engine mounted on an English Lola chassis. It's a full-bodied car that can reach speeds of 140 to 150 mph.

The Sports 2,000 series was introduced to the United States in 1978. The class is designed to be even — where no car or driver has an unfair advantage over another.

"The Sports 2,000 really makes this weekend a neat package," says Dave Ferroni of BIR. "They're great looking cars that are exciting to watch."

This is Knapp's first season racing Sports 2,000 cars for CSK Sports, headquartered in Highland Park, Ill. Last year, he raced Formula Ford cars and was successful enough to move on to the Sports 2,000.

"This is really my fourth year in cars," says Knapp, a graduate of Breckenridge High School and North Dakota State School of Science. "I don't rally have an ultimate goal in mind. I just want to keep racing cars."

Knapp credits CSK Sports and his crew for much of his success this year. The CSK Sports team, which runs as many to four cars, has a season budget of \$75,000.

"I couldn't do this on my own," he says. "You just can't recoup the costs involved. You have to have people behind you who want to see you succeed."

When he's not racing, Knapp works for Stocker Racing in East Lansing. Stocker Racing rents cars to drivers who don't want to invest a lot of money in the sport.

Knapp's Sports 2,000 car carries a price tag of about \$35,000. The chassis cost about \$25,000, and each motor is approximately \$5,000.

"You don't do this for the money," says Knapp. "You do it because you like doing it. I just hope to keep on winning."

A newspaper article published about Thomas David Knapp. Date and source unknown.

Knapp sets record at Pepsi Grand Prix

Tom Knapp, originally of Fox-home, Minn., set a course record winning the Sports 2000 class of the Pepsi Grand Prix at the Brainerd International Speedway last weekend.

Knapp, who now makes his home in East Lansing, Mich., was clocked at 142.676 miles per hour giving him a 15-second margin of victory in the Sports 2000 race — a race of 17 laps and approximately 60 miles.

The Sports 2000 class was one of five classes making up the Pepsi Grand Prix worth over \$80,000 in prize money.

"I'm taking part in a series of races all over the midwest — Kansas City, St. Louis, mid-Ohio, Wisconsin. I guess you could call it a North Central or Midwest series," said Knapp. "This particular series runs from June to October."

The 22-year-old has done quite well for himself so far this season, having won the last three races of the series to lead in points with 70. The second place racer has 41

points thusfar.

"There are 35 to 45 cars involved in the series — about half are doing it seriously," said Knapp, who rents and prepares formula racing cars for other people when he isn't racing.

Knapp explains how the company he manages, Stocker Racing, Inc., helps drivers get into racing without making the full investment racing normally requires. Drivers pay a set rate to rent a car.

Besides the series he is involved with, Knapp has done well with other races also. In fact he has won seven of nine races, all told, this year.

"It's been going rather well, really," he adds.

Knapp's car used in the Sports 2000 class is powered by a four-cylinder Ford motor and the chassis was built in England.

The 10-race series which Knapp is in the midst of operates on a 20-16-14-12-point breakdown, with points compiled throughout the year.

A newspaper article published about Thomas David Knapp. Date and source unknown.

Sports



Tom Knapp, a 22-year-old native of Foxhome, signaled before entering the pit area during Saturday's Sports 2,000 qualifying action at Brainerd International Raceway. Knapp won the pole position and went on to take the checkered flag in Sunday's

Daily Journal

Fergus Falls, MN, Monday, July 22, 1985 **14**

Tom Knapp wins 2,000 at Brainerd

By Daily Journal Staff and The Associated Press
BRainerd, Minn. (AP) — Tom Knapp, a Foxhome native, won the Sports 2,000 race at Brainerd International Raceway Sunday with an average speed of 100.14 miles per hour.

Knapp, who is the Sports 2,000 point leader, started the 17-lap race from the pole position. He edged second-place Scott Overbey by a whopping 38 seconds. The victory was worth 20 points to Knapp, and he now has 70 points, 29 points better than second place.

(Knapp)

Continued on Page 15



Tom Knapp

"He blew their doors off again," said Tom's father, Gordy, who was at BIR to witness the victory. "It was an important race for him. He considers this his home track."

While winning the \$2,000 top prize, Knapp set a new track record for Sports 2,000 cars at Brainerd. He finished a lap Sunday in 1 minute, 42.676 seconds to break the old record of 1:44.817.

"The way the car was running, I knew that kind of time was possible," Knapp said. The car just ran perfect."

Knapp, in his first season of Sports 2,000 racing, has now won seven of the nine races he's entered this year. He is currently living in East Lansing, Mich., and races for CSK Sports, located in Highland Park, Ill.

After taking this weekend off, Knapp will travel to Elkhart Lake, Wis., to compete in the Sports 2,000 race at Road America Aug. 3 and 4.

In other action Sunday at BIR, Willy T. Ribbs had the right ingredients to win his third straight Brainerd International Raceway Trans-Am feature.

The 29-year-old San Jose, Calif., driver mixed skill, a fast car and a dash of luck in becoming the fourth Sports Car Club of America driver to win three straight events at one track in the 20-year history of the Trans-Am series.

His driving skill is supported by his 13 wins in 41 Trans-Am starts. His Mercury Capri's power was demonstrated to the 20,000 fans Sun-

day as Ribbs built close to a five-second lead over his nearest challenger through most of the race.

His "touch of luck" was evident in the winner's circle as the right rear tire on Ribbs' Capri was deflated.

"It went flat on the final lap," said Ribbs, who edged Elliott Forbes-Robinson and Tom Gloy for the victory. "One more lap and two cars would have passed me."

"I wasn't going as fast as possible because we wanted to save our tires. We took a chance on using a softer tire for better traction. I'm not sure if that's why it went flat... the tire has plenty of rubber left."

Ribbs also took the checkered flag on a flat tire when he edged David Hobbs to win the BIR Trans-Am feature in 1983. Ribbs topped Bob Lobenberg for Trans-Am honors last year at Brainerd.

Ribbs, who started in the front row with his Mercury Capri after posting the top qualifying time of 1:37.029, scored a 2.6 second win over Forbes-Robinson, who qualified sixth on Saturday. Gloy, the defending series champion, finished third for the third straight year at BIR.

Ribbs won \$10,000 of the \$50,000 prize money Sunday. He led 32 of the 33 laps, covering the 99-mile race in 57 minutes, 4.3 seconds. He averaged 104.078 mph over the three-mile course.

Actor-racer Paul Newman, racing a Nissan 300-ZX turbo, finished

STANDINGS
After 4 of 10 ra

1. Thomas Knapp
2. John Ferguson
3. Calvin Fish (T)
4. Scott Goodye
5. Duane Smith
6. Scott Overbey
7. Steve Glasen
8. Tony Kester (T)
9. Jay Hill (Lola)
10. Bill O'Connor

A copy of an article about Thomas David Knapp that was published in the Daily Journal, Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on Monday, July 22, 1985.

KATHERINE KNAPP

(Written text and photographs provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Katherine Knapp** was born on May 19, 1995. She was the daughter of Thomas David and Lori (Thorsen) Knapp. Katherine Knapp attended St. Richards School in Indianapolis, Indiana, during the fall of 2008.



A photograph of Katherine Knapp at about 4 1/2 months of age.



A photograph of Katherine Knapp with her brother, Michael Knapp, taken in 2009.

MICHAEL KNAPP

(Written text and photograph provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Michael Knapp** was born on June 16, 1999, in Breckenridge, Minnesota. He was the son of Thomas David and Lori (Thorsen) Knapp. Michael Knapp attended the third grade at St. Richards School in Indianapolis, Indiana, during the fall of 2008.



A photograph of Michael Knapp taken with his sister, Katherine Knapp, on January 26, 2007.

KRISTINE JOY (KNAPP) IBRAHIM

(Written text and photographs provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Kristine Joy Knapp** was born on March 8, 1965, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. She was the daughter of C. Gordon and Rosalie Kay (Payne) Knapp. Kristine Joy Knapp married **Ahmed Ibrahim** on December 21, 1985, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. Ahmed Ibrahim was born in Kurwait and was the son of Sodeq Ibrahim. Ahmed went to Fergus Falls Community College and graduated from the University of North Dakota, at Grand Forks, North Dakota, with a degree in Electrical Engineering. Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim had three children: **Samie Ibrahim**, born January 27, 1988 in California; **Manal Ibrahim**, born March 18, 1990 in California; and **Zakary Ibrahim**, born July 8, 2000, in California.



Kristine Joy Knapp photographed on June 17, 1967, at 2 years of age.



An undated photograph of Kristine Joy Knapp.



A photograph of Kristine Joy Knapp on her wedding day, December 21, 1985.



Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim on their wedding day, December 21, 1985.



A photograph of Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim with Kristine's parents, C. Gordon and Rosalie Kay (Payne) Knapp.



The children of Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim: Manal Ibrahim (right), Samie Ibrahim (back), and Zakary Ibrahim (front).



An undated photograph of the Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim family. In back from left to right are: Samie Ibrahim, Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim, Ahmed Ibrahim, Manal Ibrahim, and Zakary Ibrahim (front).

SAMIE IBRAHIM

(Written text and photograph provided by Gordon C. Knapp). **Samie Ibrahim** was born on January 27, 1988, in California. He was the son of Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim. Samie Ibrahim graduated from Community College in Moorepark, California.



A photograph of Samie Ibrahim taken during 1991 when he was about three years of age.

MANAL IBRAHIM

(Written text and photograph provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Manal Ibrahim** was born on March 18, 1990, in California. She was the daughter of Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim.



A photograph of Manal Ibrahim when she was 1 year old.

ZAKARY IBRAHIM

(Written text and photograph provided by C. Gordon Knapp). **Zakary Ibrahim** was born on July 8, 2000. He was the son of Ahmed and Kristine Joy (Knapp) Ibrahim.

A photograph taken of Zakary Ibrahim when he was 5 years old.



GERALD W. KNAPP

(Written text provided by William John Krause II). **Gerald W. Knapp** was born on April 13, 1942, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and was the son of C. Harry and Gertrude Thelma (Duenow) Knapp. Gerald was baptized and confirmed in the Foxhome Lutheran Church in Foxhome, Minnesota. He attended public school in Foxhome, Minnesota, and graduated from West Central School of Agriculture in Morris in 1960. Gerald served his country in the Air Force National Guard for six years.

Gerald W. Knapp married **Myrna K. Hanson** of rural Fergus Falls, Minnesota, on April 22, 1961. Myrna Hanson was born on April 23, 1943. Gerald Knapp was a journeyman cabinet maker in architectural millwork at the Northwestern Sash and Door Company in Fergus Falls. He worked on the front doors and furnishings of the chapel at St. John's University in Collegeville. Gerald continued in the woodworking trade in the Minneapolis area and was promoted to foreman of Columbia Millwork at twenty years of age. He then worked for the Coca-Cola Bottling Company of Minneapolis for two years, and in 1966 was hired as quality control manager for the Cokato and Fridley plants of Dura Supreme, Inc. in Cokato, Minnesota. The family then moved from Columbia Heights to Cokato in 1967, and Gerald was promoted to plant manager of Dura Supreme, Inc. In 1972 Gerald and his wife, Myrna, started their own business, Elite Enterprises, Inc. Gerald Knapp designed three Formula Vee race cars and marketed race car kits and related parts both nationally and internationally. The company also contracted its crewing and maintenance services to professional Super Vee race drivers. Two of Gerald's cars were purchased by Disney Studios for the movie *Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo*. Gerald also successfully competed in amateur and professional racing series nationally for fourteen years, including five invitations to the Sports Car Club of America National Championship races at Road Atlanta, Georgia. His best amateur national championship finish was fourth and he raced professionally in the first Detroit Grand Prix, finishing second. Gerald Knapp his sons, Dave and Steve, and nephew, Thomas, all raced in the same race in 1982. Gerald also designed a line of custom built fiberglass mailboxes which were marketed nationally. He was also beginning to experiment in bronze sculpture.

Gerald W. and Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp had two sons: **David Michael Knapp**, born October 5, 1961, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota, and **Steven Craig Knapp**, born October 14, 1964, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota.

Gerald was a member of the Evangelical Lutheran Church and served three years on the church council.

Gerald W. Knapp died on Sunday, March 1, 1987, at Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park, Minnesota. He was 44 years of age. Interment was at the Evangelical Lutheran Church Cemetery, Cokato, Minnesota.



A photograph of Gerald W. Knapp when he graduated from the West Central School of Agriculture in 1960. (Photograph courtesy of C. Gordon Knapp).



Gerald W. Knapp wearing his race car uniform. Date unknown. (Photograph courtesy of C. Gordon Knapp).

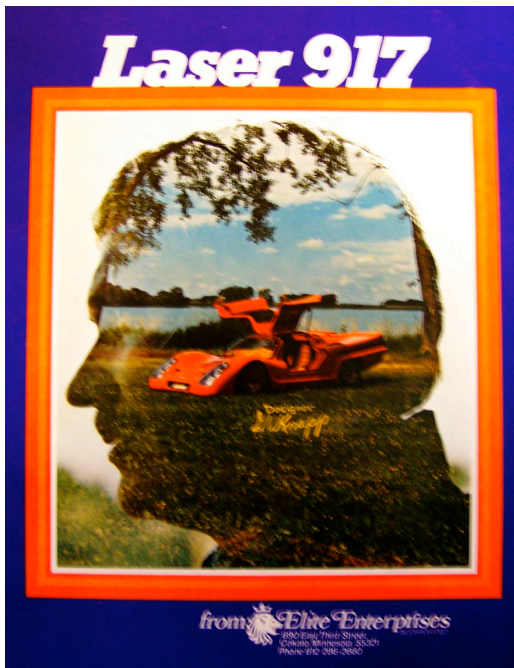


A photograph of Gerald W. Knapp and his wife Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp taken December 6, 1986. (Photograph courtesy of C. Gordon Knapp).

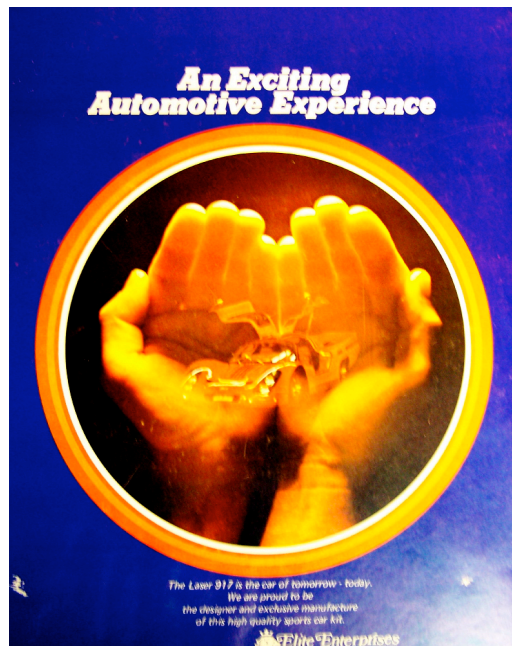


A photograph of the two sons of Gerald W. and Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp: Steve Knapp (right) and David Knapp. Date: December, 1967. (Photograph courtesy of C. Gordon Knapp).

SUPPLEMENTAL MATERIALS



An advertisement for Elite Enterprises, Inc. Gerald W. Knapp designed Formula Vee race cars and marketed race car kits and related parts both nationally and internationally. (Photograph courtesy of Cathleen (Miller) Berglund).



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Ran March 6, 1987

Gerald Knapp
Formerly Foxhome



Gerald Knapp

Gerald W. Knapp, 44, Cokato, Minn., formerly Foxhome, died Sunday, March 1, 1987, at Methodist Hospital, St. Louis Park, Minn. The funeral service was held Tuesday at Evangelical Lutheran Church, Cokato. Interment was in the church cemetery.

He was born April 13, 1942, in Fergus Falls to C. Harry and Gertrude (Duenow) Knapp. He was baptized and confirmed in the Foxhome Lutheran Church. He attended public school in Foxhome and graduated from West Central School of Agriculture, Morris. He served in the Air Force National Guard for six years.

He married Myrna K. Hanson of Fergus Falls April 22, 1961. He was employed by Northwestern Sash & Door until moving to Columbia Heights as foreman of Columbia Millworks. In 1966 he joined Dura Supreme as quality control manager and moved to Cokato in 1967 as plant manager.

In 1972 he incorporated "Elite Enterprises," designing, manufacturing and marketing fiberglass sport car kits nationally and internationally. Two of his cars were purchased by Disney Studios for the movie "Herbie Goes to Monte Carlo." For 14 years he competed in amateur and professional racing series including five invitations to the Sports Car Club of America. He formed Elite Auto Sports Inc., designed Formula Vee Race cars and kits, and contracted crew and maintenance services to professional Super Vee race drivers.

Survivors include his wife, Myrna; two sons, David, Rochester; Steven, Antioch, Ill.; his parents, C. Harry and Gertrude Knapp, Fergus Falls; two brothers, C. Gordon, Foxhome; and Dr. Gary, Seabrook, Texas.

From The Daily News, Wahpeton, North Dakota. Announcement ran on March 6, 1987.

DAVID MICHAEL KNAPP

(Written text provided by Myrna K.(Hanson) Knapp-Safford). **David Michael Knapp** was born on October 5, 1961, in Fergus Falls, Minnesota. He was the son of Gerald W. and Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp. David Knapp worked for the Ford Motor Company. David Michael Knapp married **Lisa Marie Goodrich** in Waterford, Michigan, on June 2, 1984. Lisa Marie Goodrich was born on October 5, 1961, in Bloomington, Minnesota. David Michael and Lisa Marie (Goodrich) Knapp had two children: a daughter, **Elizabeth Jane Knapp**, born on April 14, 1988, in Rochester, Minnesota, and a son, **Alexander David Knapp**, born on April 2, 1996, in East Lansing, Michigan.

ELIZABETH JANE KNAPP

(Written text provided by Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp-Safford). **Elizabeth Jane Knapp** was born on April 14, 1988, in Rochester, Minnesota. She was the daughter of David Michael and Lisa Marie (Goodrich) Knapp.

ALEXANDER DAVID KNAPP

(Written text provided by Myrna K. (Hanson) Knapp-Safford). **Alexander David Knapp** was born on April 2, 1996, in East Lansing, Michigan. He was the son of David Michael and Lisa Marie (Goodrich) Knapp.