

## **Judi La Bonte**

### **Becomers Mystery Person of the week - July 22, 2007**

Born - Michigan West Detroit)

First crush - in 3rd grade - lasted almost thru 8th grade

When I was 10 years old, my best friend & I used to swing on the pipes in our basement. One day my Dad came downstairs and saw us. He then knew why those pipes had been leaking. So he built us a trapeze.

Spent a lot of time during summer vacations over in Canada at my grandmother's house on Lake St. Clair, along with 9 of my cousins. My mother's parents immigrated to Canada from Germany.

I was extremely shy all through school. One time in 5th grade during a spelling bee, there were two of us left standing. I was getting almost sick at the thought of going to compete in a strange new school among strangers, so I spelled my next word wrong on purpose. When I told my mother, she was a bit upset with me.

About the same time, I was the only girl in our class that could climb the rope to the top of the gymnasium (probably due to that trapeze my Dad built in the basement).

My first kiss was at age 14, playing spin the bottle.

As a teenager, my friend & I and a couple of neighbor boys decided to go on an adventure (not my idea). We walked down the road to the Ferry Morse Seed Company, entered (illegally) and proceeded to have a great time sliding down the seed chutes.

I guess I always wanted to be a stenographer/typist like my mother. So I took commercial courses through high school, and worked for a Manufacturer's Representative during my senior year.

Was engaged for three months when I was nineteen. I got a job with the City (of Detroit) as a secretary and worked there for 5 1/2 years until I got married.

I like Country Music, used to play guitar. I was never much into sports, but I learned to bowl at 35, ski and golf in my mid forties, due to my husband's nagging. I still golf!

Most embarrassing moment: Getting caught and interrogated at a college football game with someone else's I.D. My future husband borrowed IDs from friends for me and my cousin. She got in, but they stopped me. Could have been because of the ID he gave me - she was tall, blond and stacked... while I was a short, skinny brunette. He assured me that "Oh, they never look at those things." That should have been my first clue!

Met my future husband on a blind date....we were both with other people. We were married three years later. He designed my wedding dress. I put him through his last year of college by working as a secretary at a fraternity main office.

We drove out to California with our two-month-old daughter because we couldn't stand the weather in Michigan. We still love it here. My husband and I have worked together for over thirty years.