

My biography is about my Papou.

My Papou's name is Christos Nikitopoulos. He was born in Thana, Arkadia, Greece. He is 79 years old and has white and gray hair and light blue eyes. He is stands five feet 8 inches tall.

He had three brothers and two sisters in his family but some of his brothers have since passed away. His mother's name was Katarina but she died when Papou was a small boy. Papou tells me he has the best family. They are kind, emotional and loving.

When he was growing up , life was very hard in Greece because it was after World War Two and the Civil War. As a child he played with his friends, made his own games , climbed trees and played tag for fun. He didn't celebrate birthdays instead he celebrated his name day. In the Greek Orthodox religion when a child is born he or she is usually named after a saint or someone very important like Jesus. Because Papou's name is Christos he is named after Jesus Christ who was born on Christmas so Papou would celebrate this day instead.

Papou went to public school and three years of high school in Greece. As a young man he worked as a server in a restaurant and worked in sales as well.

When Papou was seventeen years old he left Greece and came to Canada. He sailed on a ship called the Nea Hellas and arrived at Pier 21 in Halifax, Nova Scotia. From Halifax he came by train to Kingston. He learned to read and write English by listening and watching television and reading. He stayed in Kingston a short time because he could not find work so he went to Ottawa and found a job there. In Ottawa he worked in restaurants and eventually moved back to Kingston.

After he settled in Kingston he was able to sponsor his younger brother so that he too could immigrate to Canada. Papou worked very hard and saved enough money to buy a house and start a business.

He married my Yia Yia in 1962 and they have two sons, my Daddy and my Theo Tony. They have just celebrated being married for 50 years!

Papou likes to socialize and have dinner parties with friends. He enjoys reading, gardening and walking with Zoe, our dog. Papou loves animals!

Papou still keeps in touch with his family in Greece. He talks with them on the phone every few weeks. His two sisters are still living, one sister lives in Greece and the other lives in Oshawa.

Papou's greatest achievements in life are being brave enough to immigrate to Canada at such a young age, teaching himself to read and write English, working very hard to become a successful business man, being a very good provider for his family and raising two sons with his wonderful wife of 50 years!