



PHOTO: JIM PRISCHING

Libby and Todd Rieke with their dog, Gracie.

A Natural Way to Preserve 7 Rieke Generations

A NATURE PRESERVE WILL PAY HOMAGE TO ONE OF BARRINGTON'S EARLIEST FOUNDING FAMILIES WHOSE SEVEN GENERATIONS HAVE STAYED AND CALLED BARRINGTON "HOME"

MY GREAT-GREAT-GREAT GRAND-FATHER, Earnest Rieke, emigrated from Germany to Barrington 164 years ago in 1856. He departed Sonneborn, Prussia (Germany) stowed away on a ship to search for gold in Australia while still just a teenager. After marrying Sophia in Klemzig, Australia, they moved here to join several brothers and sisters, and other German families who settled in the area.

Today, I am the 5th Rieke generation in Barrington, my children are the 6th, and my grandchildren (who currently live in Tower Lakes) are the 7th generation Rieke to live here.

I love living in a place where my roots run so deep. I also loved raising our girls here. Great memories include taking them to the Catlow

Theatre which I enjoyed as a child, attending the same schools, playing at Langendorf Park (years back called North Park), riding bikes on the same streets, tobogganing at the Roy Wilmering Scout Cabin, and so much more!

This town and community have given me and my family so much. We felt that creating a family nature preserve would be a great way to give back. We've always admired and believed in what the Barrington Area Conservation Trust has been able to do in the Barrington area and think they are the perfect conservation partner.

We have purchased some land and are looking forward to donating that 5-acre parcel at 1 West County Line Road, adjacent to Pederson Preserve with Flint Creek running through the

middle of the two properties.

It is our hope that many future generations will enjoy this little slice of nature. 

Todd Rieke was born in Barrington, Illinois in 1956. He and wife Libby's children and grandchildren also call Barrington home.

The Rieke Family Preserve is established in remembrance and honor of the seven Rieke generations who have called Barrington home:
Sophia Schrader and Earnest Rieke
Alydia Golden and Earnest (Jr.) Rieke
Minnie Kirchman and Sandfort (Sandy) Rieke
Jacquie Prickett and Jack Rieke
Libby Ziegler and Todd Rieke
Rieke Children and Grandchildren