

Raising a Family in Vienna, Annual "Peace, Love, & Ice Cream" Family Party

RK: Well, the primary reason I stayed here, I guess, is because I married a widow with five children. That's the primary reason. I don't know that I would've stayed here otherwise, because my family is all back on the west coast - my kids and grandkids and such. But, since I raised them, and they all have kids now, it's now that I have two families. And so that's, I think, the answer to the question, is I have a family that I raised here, and a family that I raised back in Nevada. And that family however, is all grown up, and they're all kinda doing their own thing. Now, this family here is too, except they're not quite as far down the road as the ones in Nevada. Does that, do you understand what I'm saying?

SA: Yes.

RK: But so, we have a large family. Maria's family is here because her husband was killed in an automobile accident when the children were just little. So, everybody said I was crazy to marry a widow with five kids, but I did. It was the best move I ever made. The kids are all great kids, we lucked out. Or I should say I lucked out. But all of her kids are super kids. Have children, are all very bright, all accomplished, all have great jobs. So, you can't beat that. That's really winning. It was a gamble, but I lucked out. In that, it really wasn't a gamble. And we've had a great life together. And it's been just super. I'm one of those very fortunate people who, after a tragedy, ended up with a great life. We get along just fine, and all the kids get along just fine, and we just had a great get-together.

It's one of the family does this every year. They have a program called "Peace, Love, and Ice Cream." And the whole family gets together, and they kinda [unintelligible] it, and that's Maria's oldest daughter. Which, of course, I raised them all, because they were little bitty when I came aboard. And they have this big party, and all kinds of things, they have music, and they have games, and they have these jumping things, and the husband, he is a wiz on a camera. And he runs around during the year and takes great photos, great movies, of all the family. Puts it all together in a great thing, and we have a big time at this party when he shows all the issues. Two of our sons and one of our daughters are musicians, so he has a big band that go and plays for the whole thing, and all the kids play games. And so it's an all-day affair, that's really super. [Laughs].