



Charles Entenmann '47

In 1898 William Entenmann emigrated from Germany to New York and opened his first small bakery in Brooklyn. He moved his residence to the country (Bay Shore) several years later when his young son, William Jr., developed rheumatic fever. In 1924 William Jr. took over the family business and moved the bakery from Brooklyn to downtown Bay Shore.

William Jr. married and had three sons Robert, Charles, and William. All served their country in the Korean War. When their father passed away, they returned to assist their mother Martha in running the family business.

In the mid 1950's the Entenmann's recognized a trend toward one-stop shopping and the growth of large supermarkets. They discontinued making breads and concentrated on providing pastries to Food Fair, one of the first supermarkets on Long Island.

They grew their product line, developed the "see-through" cake box, and expanded their business into New Jersey and Connecticut. In 1961 they relocated their Main Street bakery to a five acre site in Bay Shore and soon opened the largest bakery of its kind in the United States.

Entenmann's was sold in 1978 providing a financial foundation to increase the scope of Entenmann's sales. They expanded their sales and distribution across the United States. The Entenmann's brand was purchased by CPC International in 1995 and has continued to grow worldwide.

Charles Entenmann was born the middle of three brothers on July 12, 1929 in Bay Shore, just before the crash. He attended Bay Shore Schools and graduated from the high school in 1947.

Charles attended the Dunwoody Industrial Institute – School of Baking in 1948 and went on to join the family bakery business on Main Street in Bay Shore for many years. He married Nancy Lee Drake of Bay Shore in 1951 and shortly afterward was invited by the President to join the U.S. Army, which he did for two years.

Charles has three children, Susan, Barbara, and Charles, and seven grandchildren. At the present time, he is retired and spends most of his time in Key Largo, Florida, while summering on Oak Beach, Long Island. He has maintained a strong interest in Bay Shore and continues to support many of its local activities.