

IRWIN

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from the time of his youth and his hard struggle up the ladder of success.

Born March 28, 1920 to Harry (now deceased) and Julia Irwin, and with his sister Helen, Stan lived in Manhattan for the early part of his life. His educational years included the George Washington High School 165, and the New York University, School of Commerce. He states he left with no special degrees, but knows that from the start he always wanted to be an actor, despite his father's wishes for his being a lawyer. There seems to have been a compromise, for he majored in Journalism, and Advertising.

In grade 5A, he wrote serious compositions, but recalls how a girl named Rose Marie compiled humorous works and collected more laughs and higher marks. Thus he decided to switch to comedy.

At that age he had won a yearly prize for the Best Balanced Aquarium in the city. He was in College at 16, and due to his outstanding achievements in Advertising, he was selected to survey books for the "Time and



STAN, DAUGHTER JODI, WIFE RUTH AND SON LANNY

Life" survey of 1938.

Nov. 1941, at the age of 21, he enlisted in the service, requesting airplane mechanic training. February, 1942, he received his acceptance as an Air Force cadet. He received his wings in the shortest period of time on record in September, '42. His command kept him in the States as a Ferry Command

Twin Engine Instructor and P63 pilot Frangible Bullet project. He was relieved of his duties at the close of war, in Lorado Texas, December, 1946.

Upon his return to civilian life, Stan commenced to write material for himself. He worked as a comedian in restaurants in New York, Washington, D.C., The Steel Pier, and in 1949 he wound up in Los Angeles. It was then that Herb McDonald booked him for the then Club Bingo. He came for an eleven day stay, which lasted eight months. Again he returned to his home town, to write more material and to play the Cat-skill Mountain area.

In January 1952, he returned to Las Vegas, at the new Sahara as Promotion Director of Entertainment and Advertising Manager. Today he is Vice President of the hotel, and Executive Producer for the Sahara Nevada Corporation, and is known to be the "largest single talent buyer in the world".

Reminiscing back Stan tells how he was comfortable up to the time of the financial crash, but after that it was a matter of working his way through college, doing every job, however menial. His jobs ranged from shipping clerk to busboy, from toy salesman to stock boy. Throughout all this, he still plugged with his comedy act, winning every amateur hour in Eastern theatres, and the entire Loew Circuit.

He met his charming wife, Ruth (nee Fishbein) when his family moved to Washington Heights (upper Manhattan) for the convenience of his sister's schooling. A friend, through the mail, made the introduction. It appears that the attraction was more than mutual, for after the first meeting Ruth informed her family that she had met the man of her choice. They have just celebrated their 23rd anniversary, and have two youngsters, Lanny, aged 14

and Jodi 10.

Among Stans' many hobbies are water skiing, golf, bowling, and Hypnosis in Medicine. He has used the latter on many occasions for the medical aid of physicians.

His religious background dates back to the days when a Rabbi came to his home to teach him, and to his going to the Institutional Synagogue on 116th Street in the middle of Harlem. Today Stan is well known among his fellow congregants at Temple Beth Shalom, and at the present time is President of the Board.

He is proud of his donations towards the fund-raising efforts of every "color, race or creed" in the Las Vegas area. In 1955 he was commended by the National Organization for the March of Dimes for having raised more money per capita than any other county in the Un-

ited States.

He, like many others, had his finger in politics when he was elected assemblyman to the State Legislature.

Stan is a charter member of the Lions 49'ers, a member of Variety, well known with the Conference of Christians and Jews, the B'nai Brith and the Mens Club of Temple Beth Shalom.

Stan brought much laughter and joy to Las Vegas as emcee of practically every

worthwhile fund-raising organization. Today he is still carrying on the pattern he has set. May he continue to bring pleasure to the many that live in, and to those who pass through, our fair city.

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