

## **For Marty Marcely, his family is number one**

Family means a lot to Marty Marcely. In his free time, he enjoys his family of two young sons and wife. While at work, he interacts with his K-M Concessions family. Marty is the co-General Manager of the National Western Complex, in Denver. Two of Marty's brothers also work for K-M Concessions, Mike and Paul for the Denver Zoo.

When Marty starts talking about his family, a huge smile crosses his face and his voice fills with pride. He and his wife, Shari, have two boys, Shayne 5, and Riley, 15 months, as well as an angel named Brianna, who was stillborn.



Marty met his wife at a softball tournament in Steamboat Springs. She was playing on a team with his sister, Patsy. However, Patsy had planned for Shari to meet her other brother, Mike, not Marty.



**Marty at age two**



**Riley at 17 months**

Shari is a PE teacher at Gust Elementary in southwest Denver, where she teaches children in grades 1 – 6. She's an athlete, too. She plays in a rollerblade hockey league on Sundays, and Marty happily stays home with the boys even though Shayne would probably like to be with his mom as he's a budding hockey player.

While Marty is quick to brag about his immediate family, he also shares tales about his relatives.

In the late 1960s, his uncle (Kevin McNicholas) used to live with Marty and his family. Kevin used to bring his dates to the house. (Was it to get approval from his sister?) During one visit, his date, who was a flight attendant, showed Marty and his brothers a one-inch play gun strapped to her thigh under her skirt. This hidden gadget fascinated the boys. When Kevin later brought home another date, they looked up her skirt to see if she had a toy gun strapped to her thigh. She didn't. And she was not amused.

He also remembers having to clean Kevin's apartment and was amazed that he had 35 – 40 pairs of underwear and 50 pairs of socks. It seemed Kevin would buy new underwear and socks instead washing his dirty ones.

## His start

Marty, his three brothers and one sister all grew up in Denver. The 42-year old has spent 26 years working for K-M Concessions. On Sundays, after going to church with his family, Marty would help sell hot dogs. He earned 10 cents a dog.

Starting when he was in his early teens, Marty spent several summers working at the Denver Zoo. At that time, the menu featured hot dogs, Pepsi and boxed popcorn, which were sold from concession stands that were just trailers of very simple construction. Marty popped lots of popcorn and bagged it for sale in Stand 3, Stand 4 and West Gate Balloons. Fortunately, he said he didn't work on the zoo's original train, called the Zooliner, as it was past its prime. His brother, Mark, had that privilege. Marty said his brother always smelled like gasoline as the engine constantly leaked.



**Right about now, Marty is wishing it wasn't his mother that sent in photos – In this undated picture, Marty attends Jr. Prom.**

In the 1980s, Marty said he got bored working concessions and got a job with the city and county of Denver as a laborer. After six years, he lost his job through a series of mishaps. Marty said getting fired "was the best thing that ever happened because the hardest part of the city job was waking up and getting there."

He tried to find a job, but wasn't happy with the prospects. Finally, he called Kevin and got a job cleaning restrooms at the Denver Zoo. As a reflection of his dedication to doing a good job regardless of it being a crappy job, his crew crowned him "Captain Commode."

Over the years, Marty has held various concession-related jobs at the Denver Zoo: Special Event Manager, Concession Manager and Food and Beverage Manager. Then he became Racetrack Concessions General Manager, a job he held for four years. Finally in September 2003, he became the Co-General Manager at the National Western Complex – a place where he bussed tables and washed dishes when he was 10 years old.

As Co-GM, Marty is responsible for the catering operations for hundreds of events, from tradeshows to barbecues to black tie fundraisers, held at the Complex. However, the most important event of the year is the annual 16-day National Stock Show held in January. This show attracts more than 600,000 people from all 50 states and several foreign countries.



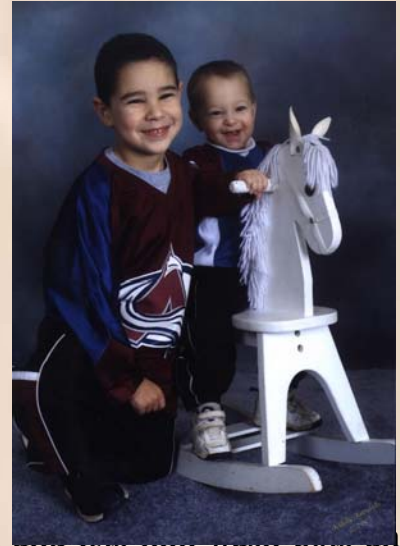
Even though he works 12 – 14 hours a day during this period, he knows his reward will be waiting at home – his family.

## **His family**

His boys are “very photogenic” the proud daddy said as he whipped out photos. Every chance he gets he’s with his family. “As we learned when we lost Brianna, you don’t know when your time is up. Any given time they (your family) can be gone” Marty said.

Even though Marty doesn’t like to read books, Shayne does. He even “reads” books to Riley despite the fact he can’t read the words. Marty thinks it’s great because he claims he has only read three books in his life.

Marty believes in spending time with his family. One day a week, Marty tries to take Shayne to work with him, but it’s getting harder now that Shayne is in kindergarten. When Shayne does accompany his dad, Marty puts an apron on him and pans. Shayne also “helps” count money in the money room. Marty said Shayne loves to come to the National Western Complex because he brings his rollerblades and skates around the empty building to improve upon his hockey skills – a sport he dearly loves. When Riley gets older, Marty plans to bring him to work, too.

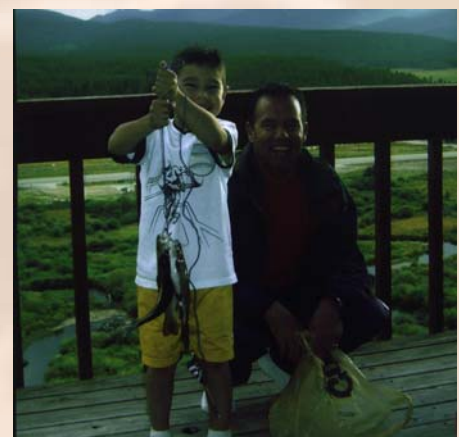


During the warm summer months, Marty said he likes to play baseball in his backyard with his sons. But he added he’s getting tired of climbing the fence to retrieve balls knocked out by his oldest son. Another summertime pastime is golf. Marty tries to play at least once a week. He also takes Shayne and Riley to the driving range. Marty proudly stated that Shayne can already hit the ball 25 yards.

Last summer he took both boys on their first fishing trip. During the three-day trip, Shayne caught his first fish. Riley participated in the activities while perched in a backpack on his dad’s back. Marty said he’s looking forward to many more fishing trips.

Marty just catered a holiday party for his sister and the Jefferson County Sheriff Department at the complex. He said he’s still getting complimentary emails and letters from attendees. Patsy was the first female division chief for the department and one of his biggest supporters. Due to her encouragement, the department has had their holiday party at each venue where Marty has worked. He added, “When a party goes off well, it’s better than any drunk I ever had.”

Marty said his greatest possession is his sobriety.



## His likes and dislikes

Marty is hesitant to talk about himself because he said he doesn't like attention as he's a "laid back guy." But he's willing to share what he likes and dislikes.



Marty's favorite sport is fast-pitch softball, a sport he has played for 21 years. He plays shortstop. He said he likes the competitiveness. "I'm too young for slow-pitch softball," he added. Marty hasn't been able to play the past few years, but is looking forward to joining a team this summer. His older son has seen his dad play, but his youngest hasn't. Hopefully, he said that will change this summer.

He's impatiently waiting for the days when he can coach his sons in baseball. Already he has coached baseball and softball teams for his nieces and nephews. Marty said he's looking forward to attending his sons' athletic events where he wants his sons to be able to see him crazily cheering in the crowd.

His most favorite place to visit is the ocean. "I love the ocean. Before we had kids, my wife and I used to go Miami and then take a flight to the Bahamas." Marty said he thought the ocean was "awesome." He added, "I always wonder what's on the other side (of the horizon)."

Knowing his love for the ocean, is it surprising to learn that "Free Willie" is one of his favorite movies? It was a gift from his wife.

When asked his favorite holiday, Marty laughed and said it was Easter because it doesn't cost anything, but added seriously because it's the start of spring. He said he hates Christmas, because he knows what follows – the Stock Show. (He has worked the stock show for 16 years.)

Marty's favorite color is green, and it's not because it's the color of money referring to his skill in playing craps.



**In addition to Marty, can you identify two other current KM/SSA employees in this 1973 photo?**

Marty named Robin Williams as his favorite entertainer because Williams jokes about stuff that's real as it reflects everyday life. His favorite television show is the sci-fi thriller, "Alias," and he particularly likes the program's star, Jennifer Garner.

Marty's love for his family was summarized best when he said, "I don't want to be rich (with money), but rich with family. It's important to me to spend time with my family."