

In 1968, Don Drumm was asked by the Toledo Health and Retirement Center of the Autoworkers Union of Toledo to design a memorial sculpture for the late union president, Richard Gosser. They chose Don for this important project because of the strong presence of his non-objective or abstract work.

During this difficult time he endured the agony of meetings set up and cancelled over and over. The design con-

could not be heard at all. In a moment's time, the sound system suddenly cut back in as the lovely lady shouted, "What the hell is this thing?" The essence of this "thing" with its creativity and originality took Don's sculpture from local commissions to international notoriety.



Don Drumm was born into a family that had positive, strong beliefs and respected religions and other cultures.

blacksmith, which means that the Drumm family has had three generations who worked in metal.

Before becoming a Drumm, Lisa Plavcan grew up in an artistic family. Her father, Joseph, was a painter and an art critic in Erie, Pennsylvania. Lisa said, "By being Joseph's daughter, I was prepared to be married to Don."

In 1958, Lisa was taking art classes from well-known jewelry artist and teacher, Mary Ann Scherr. Unbeknownst to

Lisa, Scherr and Don were good friends. Don convinced Scherr to introduce him to Lisa and immediately set out to attract her attention. He gave her his business card proclaiming that he was a sculptor. She laughed when recalling that she had accepted his card and teased him with, "Well, do you sell art or steal it?" He replied that he was a metalworker and convinced her to have coffee with him. Don said that it was love at first sight for him.



Leandra and Lisa Drumm

cept was in place, and the sculpture was completed. Problems continued as the truck that delivered the sculpture was delayed. The architect told him to go on home and wait for it to arrive. Don called back to see if the sculpture had come and was told that the crew had erected it already. Don was very surprised, since he was supposed to be there to oversee the installation.

At the unveiling of the sculpture, the public address system was cutting in and out as Mrs. Gosser was speaking at the microphone. At one point, she

He calls himself a pacifist, a peace-loving individual. His father and mother were very creative people and infused the love of art into him. Don's dad, Walter Drumm, was particularly inventive and allowed young Don to play with his materials and tools. It was here that he learned to weld. Walter, with his eighth grade education, became a mechanic and built a successful, commercial garage business in Warren, Ohio. He was known to tinker with amazing, fanciful, "Rube Goldberg-like" contraptions. Don's grandfather was a

After they were married and had children, some of the most meaningful years for the Drumms came at the prestigious Penland School of Crafts located in the Blue Ridge Mountains of North Carolina. Nationally recognized artists such as themselves were invited to teach classes. Because families would spend entire summers there, the Drumms brought their children to the friendly facility. Here the Drumms experienced a blissful fourteen summers in the peaceful and nurturing countryside of the art retreat. Lisa