

From University to first professional steps

1967 - 1979

From University to the first steps of a professional career

- The different grades at **Liège University** from 1967 to 1971: candidature in business management
- **Liège, the „capital“ of French speaking Belgium (Wallonia)** – the old town on the Meuse river, a clerical
- 1968 started the protests of the 1968-years: Civil rights movements (Black Panther), **Anti-Vietnam-War** demos and democratization of universities
- In Belgium 1968 was the start of the **federalization of the country** with the splitting of the oldest university in Leuven into a French and Flemish section
- That same year I paid my first **visit to the Soviet Union** with a student group from Germany – it was also the year of the „Spring of Prague“ (Alexander Dubcek)
- I finished successfully the 1st Candidature, the first degree of my studies in business management

Our family home around 1970



University of Liège and Belgian federalisation 1868



My mother Martha 1985



Visiting Moscow in 1968



At Kreml in 1967



University of Liège: Business Management

- In 1969 I travelled to the state of **Israel**, which in 1968 had occupied after the Six-days-War the territories of Cis-Jordania, the Golan Heights and Sinai
- While visiting the whole country, including the occupied territories, I watched in Jerusalem on TV Neil Armstrong`s first step on the moon
- At University, reforms went on, and we all watched carefully what happened in Germany, where **anti-Vietnam demos** and **anti-Shah demos** went on as well
- Walther successfully terminated his second degree at university, the 2nd candidature
- In 1970, I decided to join the **municipal council of my village Hauset**, and was successfully elected for six years.
- At the same time **started the regionalization of Belgium**. Its German community around the cities Eupen and St. Vith received cultural autonomy in Belgium

Visting Israel and occupied territories 1969



... like Sinai and Golan 1969



First professional step: Lindt & Sprüngli and Nixdorf Computer



University and the first steps of a professional career

- In 1970 the next grade, the 1st licence in Business Management was successfully terminated – in parallel I started a **holiday job at Lindt & Sprüngli**
- Finally, in **June 1971**, Walther terminated his university studies successfully with „Distinction“
- He travelled for the second time to the **Soviet Union** in particular to Moscow, Georgia (Tbilisi) and Abkhasia (Suchumi)
- His first job was with **Lindt & Sprüngli** in Aachen, the premium chocolate and praliné manufacturer who had a factory in this city.
- After one year Walther joined however the German computer manufacturer **Nixdorf Computer**, at that time a market leader.
- In 1972 another travel experience brought Walther to visit the **Lebanon** (Beirut) and **Syria** (Damascus). This was long before the civil war there.

Visiting Georgia: Tbilisi and Suchumi (Abkhazia) 1971



... and meeting Nik Bulgakow in Moscow 1971



History of Georgia 1971



University and the first steps of a professional career

- The time at **Nixdorf Computer** helped Walther to experience many different companies in Cologne, Antwerp, Paris and Eindhoven. He stayed till 1976
- With his friends he also visited European cities such as Prague, Amsterdam, Leipzig (DDR), **New York and Washington** (1973) and Dubrovnik (1974)
- In 1974 Walther met **his future life time partner Elka** in Aachen. Together they spend a wonderful holiday in Greece and visited in 1975 all antique sites
- Walther and Elka married in Hauset and Aachen, he was catholic, she was protestant, on April 30th 1976 and lived in Hauset in a rented farm house
- Walther took a new job in **the export and design department of Parfums Loris Azzaro** in Stolberg (near Aachen) in Summer 1976
- Together they spend 1977 another wonderful **holiday in Turkey**, where they visited Istanbul, Cesme, Ephesus, Pamukkale and the Greek islands, Chios, Samos

Having fun – birth of Oliver



Carneval 1972 at Lindt & Sprüngli



At Nixdorf Computer Training School 1972 and 1973 Köln



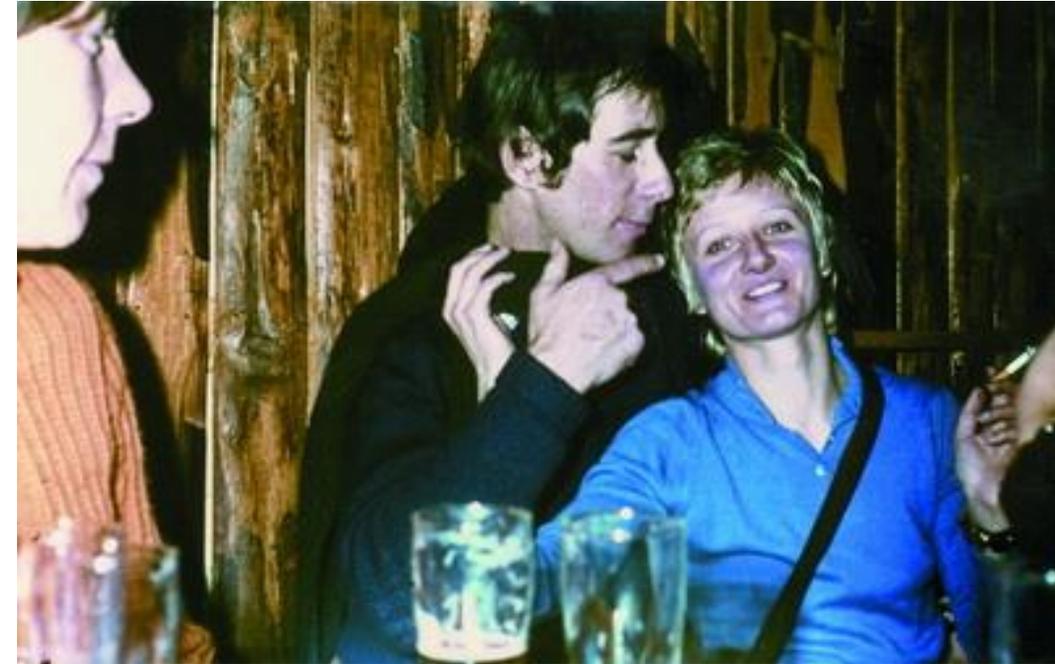
Visiting Karlstein, Leipzig, Ostberlin



Visiting Prague with friends and student girls in 1974



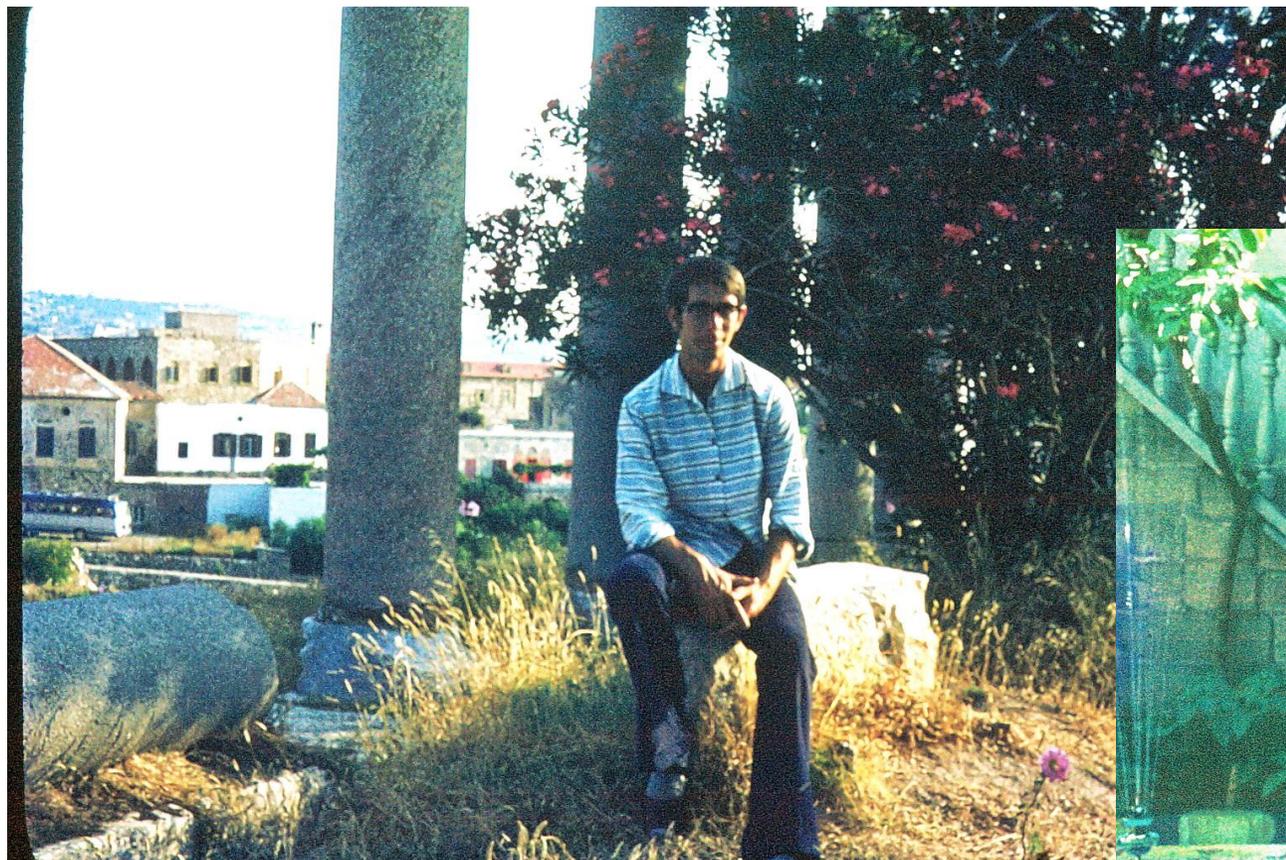
Party at students home in Aachen – first (girl) friends



Lebanon. Baalbek. 1973



Damascus. Syria. 1973



New York. Washington. 1973



On Empire State before Statue of Liberty 1973



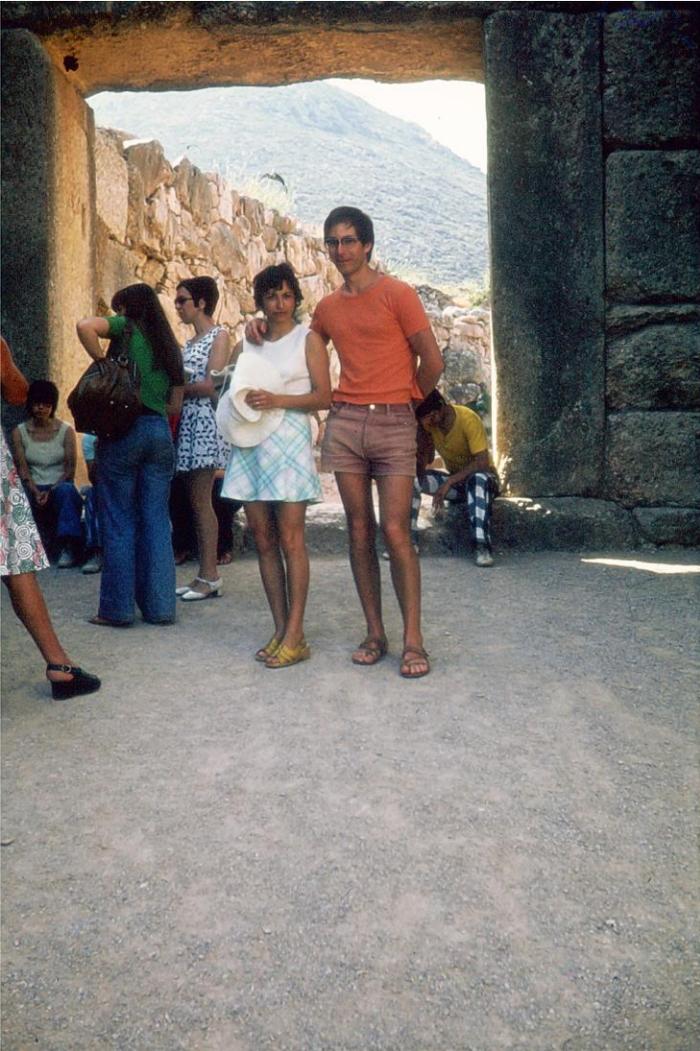
Senior sports at home – Dubrovnik (Dalmatia) 1974



Elka came into my life in 1974



Akropolis. Delphi. 1975



Piräus. Delphi 1975



With Mum's before wedding – Bachelor party with friends



Meetingh Elka for pick up



Happy wedding 1976



Our first home the wedding night 1976



Next winter 1977



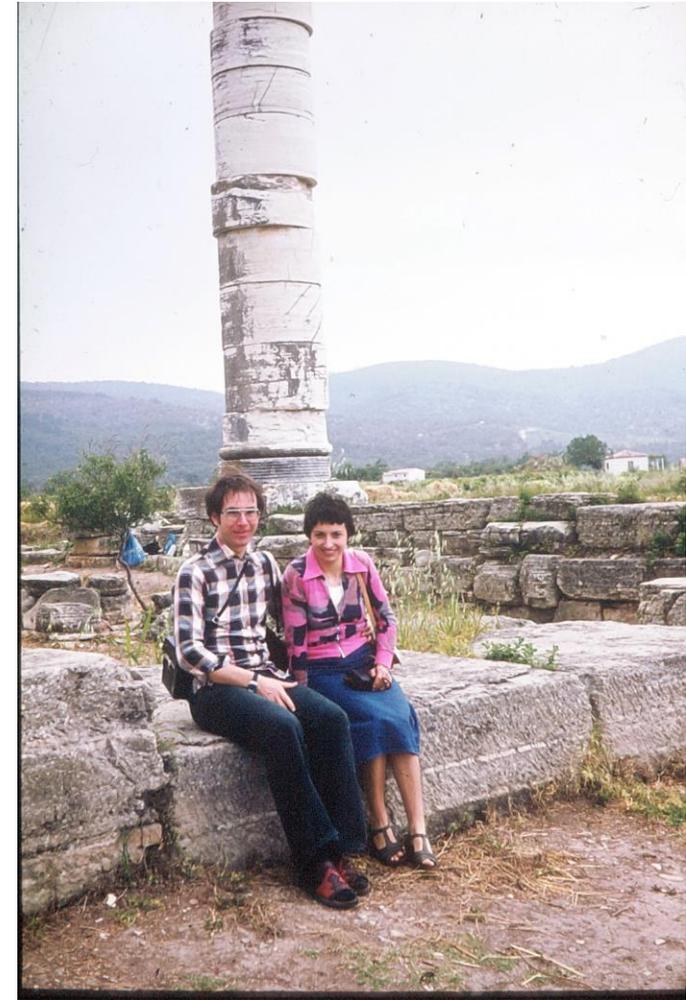
Honeymoon in Tunisia 1976



Visiting Turkey and Greek islands 1977



Istanbul. Ephesus. 1977



The Janssen family with Ulrich and Reinhard

- In 1978 Walther and Elka announced the happy birth of their first son **Ulrich**, and Walther prepared in 1979 again to change his job
- Walther became **export manager for Babor Cosmetics in Aachen**, where he stayed for more than ten years, for six years as General Manager till 1989
- The time at Babor was a great experience for Walther; he travelled around the world from Europa to the USA and the Far East, this was about skincare
- Walther`s profession gave him the opportunity to visit also Leningrad, Tallinn and Ostberlin, beside such world places like New York, Tokyo, Hong Kong, Beijing,...

At Loris Azzaro Party – Expecting Ulrich 1978



My mum Martha and her siblings at her 70th in 1978



Political career – Council and Autonomy 1976



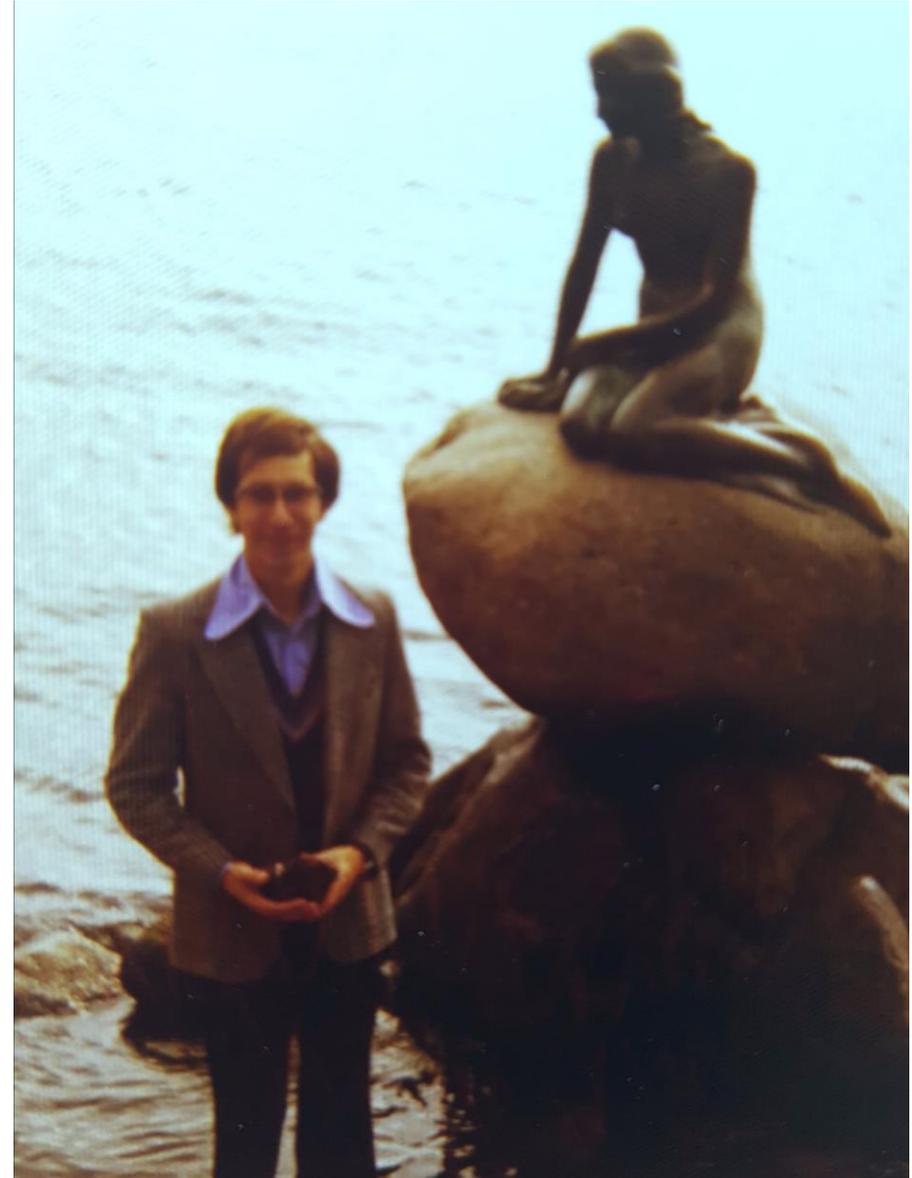
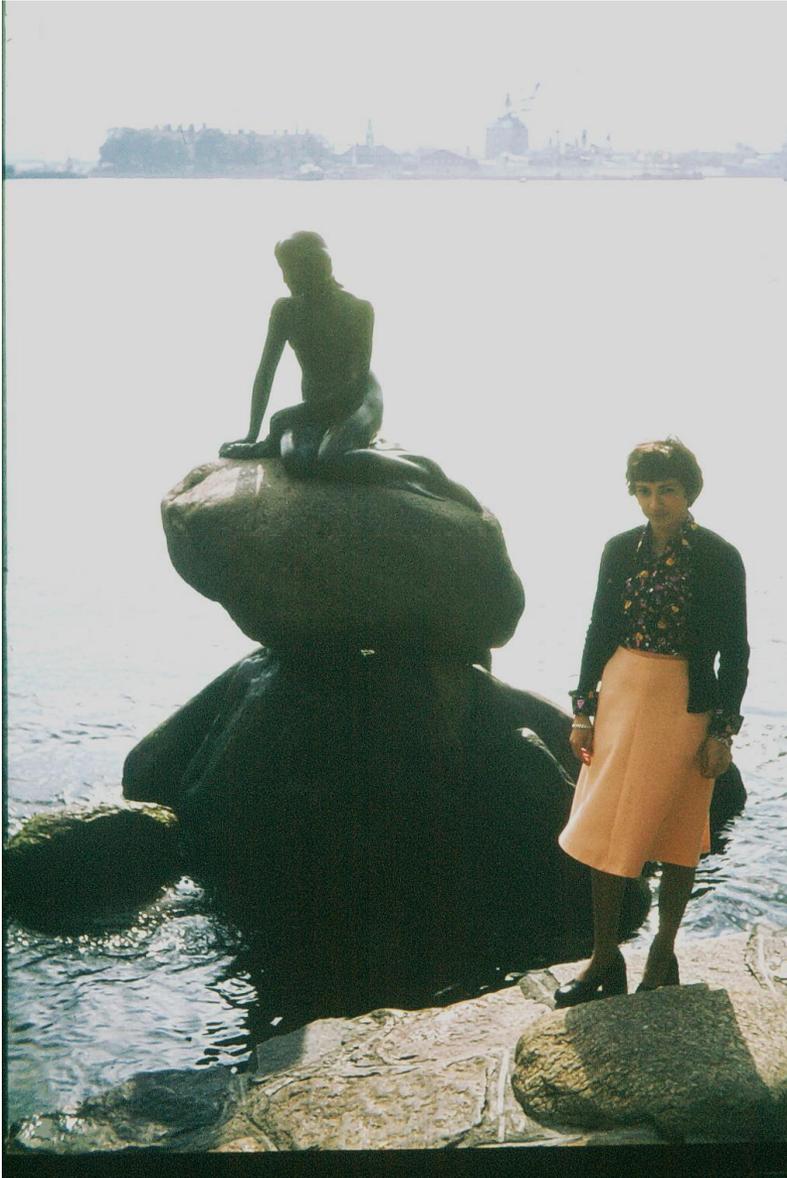
Little Ulrich 1978



Ulrich in 1976



Copenhagen 1979



Moving in our new house in 1980



Ulrich at Schönbrunn - Reinhard is here 1980



The first step a professional career

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Walther Janssen ©