

Glen Volkman
One of McDonald's First Customers in 1955

Glen Volkman of Eau Claire, Wisconsin, 66, was one of the first of customers to visit Ray Kroc's first McDonald's restaurant in Des Plaines, Illinois, on opening day, April 15, 1955.

As a 16-year old junior at Bensenville High School (now Fenton High School), Volkman and his hungry teammates stumbled upon the first McDonald's restaurant after a golf meet. Unbeknownst to Volkman, he and his teammates would be part of the history of what Glen calls, "this curious restaurant with golden arches."

Volkman ordered a cheeseburger, french fries and shake for about 80 cents that day, and enjoyed his meal in the parking lot with his teammates. He remembers commenting to an original crew member that everything looked "spiffy and clean."

Volkman is very proud of his unique McDonald's experience, and has followed the success of McDonald's ever since. He thinks "good food and good people" are the keys to McDonald's success.

Volkman will be honored as the first drive-thru customer served at McDonald's new 50th Anniversary restaurant in downtown Chicago on April 15, 2005 – 50 years to the date he visited Ray Kroc's #1 restaurant.

Volkman is retired and lives with his wife in Eau Claire. He enjoys spending time with his four grandchildren and eating his favorite McDonald's food item, the McRib.