

Back to Heidelberg for Dinner

Heidelberg is one of my favourite cities in Germany. Zweibrücken is almost my favourite, but that's because of Helga. That's another story....

I spent time in Heidelberg in 1958. Heidelberg has a population of 150,000 and this picturesque city lies along the Neckar river. Die alte brücke (the old bridge) has been used to traverse the river since 1788. The number one attraction in Heidelberg is the Castle. Original construction of the castle started in about 1300. The castle is reached by climbing 315 numbered steps and from its 300' elevation gives an excellent view of the city. On December 9, 1945 U.S. Army General George Patton had a car accident in the adjacent city of Mannheim and, as a result, he died 2 weeks later in the Heidelberg U.S. Army hospital.

Every night I ate with several friends in an Italian restaurant, Sole d'Oro, on Hauptstrasse. It had been about 30 years since I had my last meal at Sole d'Oro and I was now back in Heidelberg with Judy. We were walking down Hauptstrasse and I wanted to see if the Italian restaurant was still there so I could show Judy where I had dinner almost every night. As we approached the location I saw the restaurant sign showing that it was still there. As we got closer I saw a man standing in the doorway. It was the same owner that ran the place 30 years ago. When we came up beside him, he looked at me and said, "Where've you been?". After introducing Judy we went inside to have dinner.

All during dinner the owner kept coming over to our table with questions: "What ever happened to "Tiger Bob"?"

"Where did you go after you left Heidelberg?"

"Where's Fogwell? I heard he was in jail in Monaco"? (true)

When we had finished our meal Judy and I were sitting at the table talking. I reached out to pick up my glass of wine and that's when I knocked over the candle that was lit on the table. That's when the paper table cloth caught fire and I had to stamp it out with my hands. I paid the bill, with a hefty tip, we said our farewells and left. The next time I'm in Heidelberg I'll ask the owner not to put a candle on the table.



Brad McInnes
YMASC President 1970 - 1971

