In 1938 at the age of 15, Larry Zuk became a falconer in New York. Larry said, “He and Artie Donahue started in the sport together. Larry kept in contact with another New York falconer, Vicky Stoddart, from then on. Larry went to the University of Pennsylvania in 1938 and then met Doc Stabler, the first experienced falconer he met. Larry said, “In 1941, I went to the University of Pennsylvania. When I met Doc Stabler, I learned from the Stablers’ falconry.”

The Zuks moved to New York in 1948, where Larry completed his Master’s degree at Columbia University. In 1949 on their way to Salt Lake City to hawk with Morley Nelson, Larry, Paula, and baby Erica Zuk stopped at a motel, restaurant, truck stop named the Cozy Corner, in Broomfield, Colorado. Larry drove around the Cozy Corner’s section and counted 101, pheasants. Larry said, “I’m staying here ha, ha. We lived at the Cozy Corner for three years.”

Pete Asborno went hawking with Larry in “Larry’s territory” 2 or 3 days a week. There is a 16mm movie taken by William F. Russell of Pete and Larry hawking waterfowl at the archives. Larry said, “We took 17 Great Blue Herons in one season. We banded 16 GBH and released them back into the wild. That 17th bird was too damaged to release. I remember one flight, when I was hawking alone. I saw the Heron and the Peregrine go down near the creek, but when I stood on the embankment overlooking the creek, I could not see the Heron or the falcon. Suddenly, the falcon popped up from under the water’s surface. She still had hold of the Heron’s head. Since the falcon was soaking wet, the Heron unharmed and I turned the Heron loose.”

Larry’s last falcon was given to Air Force Academy in 1954.

Lawrence E. “Larry” Zuk
March 23, 1923 - December 11, 2015