



KARL SIMON

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From high school, I obtained my Bachelor of Arts degree from Reed College in Portland. After a summer in Manhattan, New York, between Junior and Senior years, I moved to the New York. Working in academic publishing as a promotion manager, I got a taste of the "real world", returning to Portland to continue my education at Portland State University where I majored in Jacobean Theater and Filmmaking and received my Master of Arts degree. Needing to begin making some money again, I worked at the Portland Art Museum on guard duty, print conservation, gallery installation, and then projectionist for the newly built auditorium and the NW Film Study Center. With this growing knowledge of communications media, I took an audio visual equipment maintenance and repair technician position at Good Samaritan Hospital and Nursing School. This coincided with a grant for video and audio production equipment to the Nursing School, so I took on the implementation of video production for healthcare education and administration. After 8.5 years, the Reagan recession hit, and reorganization and consolidation found me unemployed. Going into partnership with my film teacher and two other former students working in media, we established a media consulting and production business. We managed to keep the business going for three years, but had to go our separate ways. During this time, I was involved with the development of cable television services in the city by serving on the Cable Franchising Council, and then on the city's Cable Regulatory Commission. I turned to temp work for several months until I landed a transitioning temporary position at Oregon Health and Science University in the new area of Quality Assurance. After 7 months, I was hired permanently and began what has become a life long career at OHSU. I worked in the same department that evolved from a staff of 4 to 35 mostly nurses, a few physicians, and administrative staff responsible for the accreditation, credentialing, quality analysis and improvement projects, regulatory liaison with state agencies and federal Medicare intermediaries. I retired from OHSU in 2009, and have continued working half time in transitioning my responsibilities and knowledge to younger employees. I'm now working three days per week in financial services supporting the Medicare cost reporting process and staff.



In 1970, I met John Coutant, a Viet Nam veteran and an artist studying at PSU. We found we had both grown up in southern Oregon and had similar social backgrounds and experiences. We moved in together during winter break and are still together. The recent U.S. Supreme Court decision has now allowed us to marry and we did so, in Vancouver, Washington this last July.

I garden, collect early porcelain, pick and sell antiques and collectables as 'Two Bears Antiquaires', enjoy occasional travel, cook (recently became vegan), collect and take photographs, practice Tai Chi for health, and enjoy the intelligent and caring companionship of my partner.