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Children: Chris and Brian

Grandchildren: Austin and Caitlyn

Nestled in the foothills of the Rocky Mountains, Fort Collins, Colorado has been our home since 1979 when Dick accepted a faculty position in the Department of Atmospheric Science at Colorado State University. The photo of us was taken at the 2013 American Meteorological Society Awards Banquet where Dick received an award for his research. I met Dick Johnson in 1963 at OSU and we were married two years later. We lived in a variety of places (Corvallis, Chicago, Miami, Seattle and the island Guam) prior to Fort Collins.

Before my retirement I had a psychotherapy practice where I found the experience of seeing people regain their confidence and respect after resolving issues to be very rewarding. I also taught at Front Range Community College and Regis University where the enthusiasm for learning energized me.



Our children, Chris and Brian grew up in Fort Collins where they learned to love hiking, camping, fishing and skiing. Fort Collins has been good for all of us.

In addition to my appreciation for career, family, and our local environment, I have had many travel adventures in the U.S. and abroad. Dick's research interests are global and so is his travel. I join him when possible and I have seen much of Europe and Asia while gaining a greater perspective of his work. While I have enjoyed seeing many famous sites in many countries, it has been through the acquaintances of the people that have left the greatest impressions. On my most recent trip to Vienna, a retired opera singer joined me for coffee at a neighborhood coffee shop. For two hours she shared her fascinating life story with me. At times she couldn't contain her passion for opera and her deep alto voice sang out some of her favorite opera verses. She was fully aware of my admiration and interest and before we parted she said she wished to give me a piece of jewelry she had just acquired at a local antique store. She opened a small white paper bag and took out a parrot pin; she held it up to me and insisted I accept it. I did and it will always be a memorable treasure.

On my most recent trip to China, our Chinese host took another scientist's wife and me on a hike near Nanjing where we encountered a group of Chinese women having a picnic. After brief verbal exchanges, our host explained that the women invited us to share their picnic with them as they wished to practice their English. The women were so gracious and courteous. We laughed as we enjoyed the food they had prepared which included boiled quail eggs and chrysanthemum cookies, foods I had not tasted before. We laughed at our attempts to speak each other's language and enjoyed the atmosphere of good will. Before we departed the photo was taken and then our host told us that the women had said that our time together was an example of "serendipity."

Each trip has contained moments such as these. I included these as examples because I could still remember them well. I look forward to seeing classmates at the reunion and I wonder how 50 years could go by so quickly. Dick is in the process of transitioning into retirement and we consider major changes. We are considering a move to Oregon, perhaps central Oregon, in a couple of years. After all our travels we still consider Oregon to be the best place to live.