

Marilyn and Mel's lives together with emphasis on GWTA

We met in the summer when Marilyn was between her Junior & Senior year in High School and I was a student at North Dakota State University. I recognized that, after a short time of going with her, that she would make wonderful person to spend my life with. We married 2 & 1/2 years later while I was still attending the University and she was now working at the University in their Agriculture Department.

My first job was with the Washington State Highway Department where I did not stay long and accepted another offer that was with the US Forest Service who I worked for 40+ years. We lived in 4 different cities in Oregon and then we moved to Montana as their Forest Engineer. I next accepted the Forest Engineer's position on the Gifford Pinchot NF just a few weeks before Mt St Helens blew up. All the work with the cleanup and construction helped my profile and I was next selected as one of the Assistant Regional Engineers in the Regional Office of Pacific SW Region. I got selected to replace Dick Deleissegues, as the Regional Engineer, after his retirement and finished my career in that position for 9 & 1/3 years.

We were married over 5 years before our daughter Carmen was born so it was like we were still going out together. We planned to be gone every weekend and our vacations were planned as to where we wanted to go to enjoy the beautiful Country. We bought a convertible when I graduated and got new cars about every 3 years for the first 12 years. Marilyn worked for Milina Sash & Door during this time, so we had the money to do the things we enjoyed. When Carmen was only a few months old she went with us camping (we now had a trailer) and we had a backpack we would take turns carrying her while we dug clams on the Washington Coast. We would come back from wherever we lived after this to dig clams on the Washington and Oregon Coasts.

In 1972 I bought our 1st motorcycle which was a 350 Honda. We kept getting larger motorcycles. Marilyn was visiting family in Eugene and found this nearly new, full dressed, 1978 black with gold trimmed Goldwing 1000 and bought it for me. That resulted in us owning 6 Goldwing's since and riding them over 500,000 miles. Our current Goldwing is a 2007 - 1800 and it has 94,000 miles on it.

In 1989 we had a 1200 Goldwing and Dick Gorman put a card on the dash inviting us to join Chapter P on a campout. His wife Debby was the Chapter President and we soon became members of GWTA. Others in the Chapter at that time were Christy & Dennis Therien and Robert Taylor. We have been active in this Chapter ever since and have loved riding with these members and going to many of the campouts. We currently have a Bunkhouse tent trailer and a Bushtec Utility trailer we use when we are not camping. Our trips have taken us to several National Goldrush events and from these gatherings we move on to visit family and friends all over the Country. Our Goldwing's have been an exciting, enjoyable and important part of our lives since 1978.

Marilyn and I have been officers in the Diablo Valley Wings, Chapter P for years and have been active in all their activities. We were honored to be selected as the Family of the Year in 2019 for California, selected to represent Region B and came in 2nd in the National Competition in Medford Oregon.

The two Organizations that we give most of our support to has been GWTA (Chapter P) and the National Active and Retired Federal Employees (Chapter 1718). Marilyn was the Treasurer of both Chapters when she passed away on January 27, 2021. These two Organizations have enabled us to develop long term friends that will be with us for our lifetimes. Mel Teigen

