



The Strawzers were involved in business activities in the early 80's. Through a series of happenings in each of their lives, they felt God's call to overseas missions... specifically to marginalized people groups who didn't yet have God's Word in a language or format which speaks to their heart contributing to the fulfillment of Revelation 7:9!

John & Rhonda Strawser

JAARS – Supporting Wycliffe Bible Translators

John & Rhonda spent most of their childhood years in the greater Charlotte, NC metropolitan area. They both grew up attending church. John came to Christ thru a televised Billy Graham Crusade while in middle school and was involved in a Campus Life group while in high school. After graduation John served 4 years in the U.S. Air Force resulting in many lifelong friends. He completed two degree programs in business administration and computers. John worked at Duke Energy as a computer programmer analyst and as an independent Commercial & Instructor pilot. Rhonda came to the Lord after graduating high school. She completed an accounting degree and was working when they met. They attended an open house @JAARS on one of their first dates. Thru time @JAARS and attendance at a Keith Green Memorial Service, John felt the call to overseas missions. Rhonda felt God's call at a much younger age while attended a Baptist youth camp. John & Rhonda were married and completed additional Bible courses thru Moody Bible Institute and John completed his FAA A&P mechanic rating at Moody Aviation in Elizabethton, TN.

In '87 & '88 John & Rhonda successfully completed the JAARS/Wycliffe evaluation/orientation courses and began field service in '89 in Southeast Asia. John served as a pilot/mechanic in the jungle meeting transportation needs for missionaries for 2 field terms. Rhonda served in the aviation office doing payroll/records (1st term) and art teacher (2nd term). Daniel & Michael were born the year before each field term. In addition God used John's gift of "not meeting a stranger", to "open" many doors to military, business, diplomatic & political officials, previous military and 'jungle' experience was instrumental.

In '98 the Strawzers moved to the Philippines, taking up positions/responsibilities in 'ER' (*External Relations*) for both Philippines and Asia. Dr. Dick Pittman, one of our organization founder's "right hand" men, had previously taught and prepared John, his service involved 'building bridges' of relationship and training colleagues according to scripture mandates and being good guests in the countries we served. God moved mightily thru high-level country authorities of different religious and political persuasions to provide access to marginalized people groups so Bible translation could be accomplished!

Currently Daniel provides gov't support services after serving 6 years in the U.S. Air Force. Michael graduated in May '15 from the Univ of N.C. and was commissioned as an officer in the U.S. Air Force. After 20+ years of overseas service, the Strawzers returned to the U.S. in '11. The Strawzers serve at the JAARS Center, John in relational networking/speaking and Rhonda in the Gift Shop.

John & Rhonda are thrilled for almost 30 years to be part of the worldwide Bible translation team!