

SPOTLIGHT: Patsy Marquart

By Carolyn Taylor

About an hour from the shores of Lake Erie lies Rawson, Ohio - a sleepy, rural village of 200 where Patsy was born however, her life with husband Don of 58 years was to be a gateway to relocation into twenty homes near and far, throughout her life. Who would have thought this high school cheerleader and her grain farm-raised quarterback would experience the diversity of travel that Don's professional life was to offer them? And travel they did. A staggering amount of it, I might add.



Although Patsy has worked and volunteered tremendously throughout the years, admittedly, her life's work has been supporting Don's career and raising 2 little girls into beautiful adults and later, being grandmother to 3 who are now 27, 20 and 18.

Over the years, you might have sent their Christmas card to them in London, Manhattan, Chicago, Lancaster, Pa. , Naples, FL or Clinton, NJ (to name a few). They also lived in Mexico City and San Miguel, Mexico. Historic San Miguel is filled with 16th and 17th century buildings and has been voted Conde'Nast Traveler magazine's #1 favorite city in the world. Patsy reflects on an area so littered with monarch butterflies that the ground was completely gold. For 22 years, they had a summer home in Portland where one of their daughters lives. They've traveled to all 50 states, have taken countless cruises and holidayed to Europe, the Far East and Latin America. Twenty-six days in India was her personal favorite. In 1998, they relocated from their Naples beach home to Heathrow Woods to be closer to their daughter and grandchildren who live in College Park. Seven years ago, they relocated downtown to The Sanctuary where they now enjoy sunsets filtered through the Orlando skyline from the 16th floor - a fabulous setting for her watercolor studio.

Patsy is an accomplished watercolor artist who has donated some of her framed paintings to our yearly gala. She has honed her skills through workshops and art study in Florida, Ohio, Lancaster, Illinois, Oregon and NY and is VP of the Central Florida Watercolor Society, a Florida Water Color Society member, Color Pencil Chapter Member and a 2010 volunteer co-chair of the Florida Watercolor Convention. While living in Naples, she was a volunteer at the Von Leich Art Center.



In Long Grove, Illinois, Patsy was President of the local women's club, worked to offer charitable support to a Chicago orphanage and helped with relief efforts after the 8.2 earthquake in Mexico City. In Lancaster, PA, she worked with inner-city children and was a docent at James Buchanan's home. In Mexico, Patsy cared for babies in villages. When she's not painting, she finds enjoyment with Don attending the Philharmonic, The Mad Cow Theatre, movies and dining and they are hoping to join the University Club. You can take the girl out of the country but not the country out of the girl - Wendy's remains her favorite place to eat.

Patsy loves the HWC book club, card and social groups. Over the last 16 years, she's volunteered for numerous committees and organized a book sale at Sawyer Lake Park. The Newz SPOTLIGHT can help us better value our members and Patsy is a great example of the treasures in our club. Her artistic talent, kindly spirit, worldly backdrop and desire to give back make Patsy a true HWC asset.

