

# Member Spotlight...

## Russ and Joan Miller



Joan and I met in the summer of 1960 when I was home on emergency leave from the US Navy. It was a casual meeting as I was engaged to another woman at the time. After that romance soured, Joan and I started dating in late 1962, were engaged on Valentines Day in 1963, and married in September 1963. We moved from New Jersey to Delaware to be closer to my work. At the time, I was an operator on a fuels refinery unit. While working full time shift work, I started attending the University of Delaware in the College of Engineering. I graduated with honors in 1974 with a Bachelor of Mechanical Engineering degree. Joan, despite having to care for two children, also attended the University of Delaware and has the equivalent of an Associate Degree in Child Development and Education.

It was during the oil crisis of the early 70's that I started riding motorcycles, mainly to save fuel. As my career progressed in the oil industry, we were required to move residences several times; from Delaware to Indiana to California to West Texas to Louisiana to New Jersey. We enjoyed riding everywhere we lived (except West Texas) and we did ride a lot. During this period of time (1971-1992) we put 250,000 miles on the bikes. In 1993, we bought our first Goldwing, a 1984 LTD. In 1997, we upgraded to a 1998 1500, then upgraded again to our present ride, a 2005 1800. We have a total of almost 190,000 miles on Goldwings, and have ridden in every state in the contiguous US, and the Maritime Provinces of Canada.

I retired in 2000 as General Manager of Project Engineering and Construction for a large independent petroleum company and moved to Sun City, Texas, to ride the bike and play golf. Joan is very involved with painting, photography, and crafts. She is also Vice-Chairman of the Williamson County Women's Connection, a member of the Georgetown Noon Lions and a Director of the Ladies Auxiliary of the Fleet Reserve Association.

Russ is Director of the Fleet Reserve Association, Director of the Georgetown Noon Lions Club, a member of the American Legion, and a certified Motorcycle Safety Foundation Rider Coach.

We have one daughter, a published author who resides in Spotsylvania, Virginia.