

I am a Marine Corps brat and I grew up in the Disneyland area of Orange County. I graduated from Santa Ana Valley High School, and I attended Santa Ana College. From there, I joined the United States Navy. I received training in Gunfire Control electronics. I was assigned to the U.S.S. Theodore E. Chandler DD 717.

Although we were officially home ported in Yokosuka, Japan, we served the majority of our duty off the coast of South Viet Nam.

When I returned from Viet Nam in July of 1969, I was honorably discharged from the Navy. I continued my education at Victor Valley College in Victorville, California. I received an Associate of Arts degree there in 1973.

I transferred to California State University, Fresno. I received a Bachelor of Arts in Broadcast Journalism in 1975.

I used my education in the Public Relations aspect of Journalism, and I have been the Hotel Front Desk manager for several casinos in Reno, Nevada, over nearly six years.

I used my Public relations experience, once again and became the manager of the Greater Porterville Chamber of Commerce. There I produced a Chamber of Commerce newsletter and a short weekly radio program for the Chamber. After two years with the Chamber, the Chamber fell on very hard times, and I moved onto sales for a Porterville manufacturer.

I met and married my wife in Porterville. She was a Bilingual Elementary teacher. I visited her classroom many time, and was taken by the whole aura of having a positive impact on young lives. I leapt at the chance to substitute teach.

I substitute taught for nearly eight years, after leaving the Chamber of Commerce. I even took several classes in Multiple Subject Teaching from National University.

I continued to substitute teach, and began working part-time for the Porterville Public Library. From there, I was fortunate enough to be recommended to work for the Porterville College Library Media Center. While still working for Porterville College, I subbed on very critical needs days for several schools.

I transferred from Porterville College Library Media Center in October 2003 to the Cerro Coso Community College Library Resource Center.

I volunteered to read to elementary school classes before and after my work day at the college. Mrs. Miller's 3rd grade class at Ridgecrest Charter School was one of the first classes I read to. This Fall, I will begin my ninth year reading to Ridgecrest and Inyokern students. My retirement schedule has expanded to 18 classes each week.

I recently retired from Cerro Coso Community College.