

In Memoriam



Pat French Davis: Graduated from Whitmer High School in 1958. Born in February 1941.

It has been a long time since we walked down the aisle of the Panther Football stadium in May of 1958 to receive our diplomas. My oh my time flies. My fondest memory of that day was not being able to attend any of the graduation parties because I broke out with a rash, which ended up being measles. What a disappointment!

A graduate of Purdue University, I spent the last 40 years working in my chosen profession as a registered nurse.

Several years into my career, I was able to add my second love that of teaching to my resume. Twenty-two years were devoted to nursing and hospital staff education.

I married Richard Clevenger (Whitmer Class of 1954) in 1960. We had three sons: Thomas, Todd and Timothy and have 4 granddaughters and 3 grandsons. My three sons and their families live in the Indianapolis area.

We lived in Fort Wane, Indiana most of our married life. In 1988, Dick's job took us to Ketchikan, Alaska. I spent 5 years in Alaska. During my time there, I taught at the University of Alaska, worked for a firm out of Anchorage as a case manager for workers compensation claims and completed physicals for insurance companies. Living on an island accessible only by air or sea, you keep yourself as busy as possible. My teaching required me to travel via air taxi to small islands throughout southeast Alaska. It was definitely exciting flying in and around the mountains in all types of weather. We traveled each summer back to Indiana in our Motor Home through the beautiful Canadian Rockies.

During the summer of 1993, I returned to Fort Wayne, to be near my aging mother and our children. Thinking I was preparing a new home for our retirement years, I was extremely surprised and very depressed when Dick asked for a divorce after 35 years of marriage. After recovering from that blow to my ego, I picked myself up and became very independent. In 1995, I began working at the Veterans Medical Center in Fort Wayne. My responsibilities included managing and teaching in the education department. In April 2007, I retired after working 12 years for the VA. A wonderful job, I loved all the veterans!!!

I met my current husband Ed Davis, in 1996 and we were married the following year. He and I have a lot in common and both love to travel. Last fall we left the area and traveled to Texas to get out of the miserable Indiana winter. We lived in our Motor Home all winter with our three traveling companions, 3 toy poodles. The weather in Texas was perfect and we did a lot of site seeing. I guess I should have listened and studied my geography better because I did not know much about Texas when I left. I sure do now. We plan on returning next winter providing we remain in good health.

My Favorite Memory of Whitmer High:

Working on the floats each year in preparation for homecoming, the after game sock hops, the Whitmer Circus, and Mrs. Fontaine, my home room teacher.

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