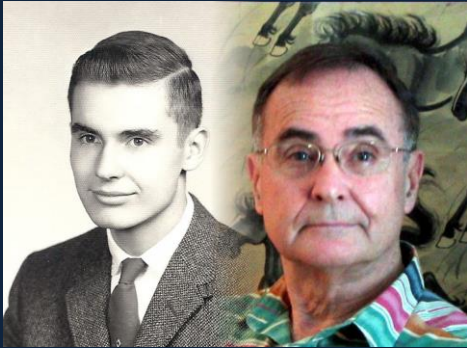


## In Memoriam



**Paul Ziegler:** Graduated from Whitmer High School in 1958. After Graduation, (seems so long ago) I fell in love with California, which is about as far away from Toledo as one can get. I had to return to Toledo in 1962 to complete my military obligation and then returned to California.

I then went on to complete a little bit of college and a stint with the Los Angeles Times (and Mr. Foster said I couldn't even write a sentence). Next I took a position with May Co., a major retail department store on the West Coast, which later lead me to Denver, Colorado. This is where with three partners we created a new concept in renting snow ski equipment called Breeze Ski Rentals. I

enjoyed nine years in the mountains managing 9 rental locations and perfecting my own skiing ability.

After a good sale of the rental business, I moved to Atlanta, Georgia to take a much needed sabbatical and establish a new place to live in the warmth of the South. At the age of 40, I opened an antique treasures store and had the time of my life, learning something new every day for the next 17 years!

While taking a trip to Costa Rica via Mexico, I met my partner of 13 years in Merida, Yucatan, where I now reside. Somehow through all of this I managed to survive the curse of HIV, while many of my friends were not as fortunate. The disease drove me to create something of which I am most proud. "Jerusalem House", which was the first hospice personal care facility in the South. The organization has since gone on to open a pediatrics unit for mothers, housing 50 people.

I know this is a short version of the last fifty years. I have left out the fact that I wake up every morning smelling the roses.

**My Favorite Memory of Whitmer High:** It was a sunny spring day in 1958, maybe late April, I had driven to school [remember I was a little shot] and homeroom hadn't yet begun and I was milling around the hallway and met up with Claude Morrette "57", but wait a minute what was Claude doing at Whitmer the year after he graduated, I told you some of this doesn't make sense. Well anyway, somehow Don Weiler "59", Gary Ford "57" and I drove off in Claude's old 1946 or 7 four door Chrysler behemoth complete with cast iron bumpers and plush limousine seats. It must have been 9 am and someone suggested we go see "Soupy Sales" and "White Fang" and "Black Tooth" can anyone remember the rest of the cast. So it was off to Detroit and the Penobscot building. We got there in time for the live broadcast and somehow we talked our way onto the set and got to meet Soupy and the arms that were White Fang and Black Tooth. He talked with us and asked us how we got there on a school day. We lied and told some far fetched story which I'm sure he didn't believe, but he was nice and we got to stay on the set for the entire show. Hungry and with no other idea what to do with the \$3 we had between us we got some lunch [no McDonalds] and gasoline was 27 cents a gallon and drove back to Toledo. Somewhere at the Michagan/Ohio border we were stopped by the Ohio police and told we were in a bucket of trouble. That we should go directly home. We told the police what we had done and they let us go. The next day I was sent to Mr. Davis's office and was told I would not be graduating in the spring. I can't remember how it all got fixed but my parents were in his office for a long time and I was sweating nickels the entire time. Life was so simple in those days and we were so very innocent.

### **Personal Information:**

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**Paul passed away in February 2015**