

Member Profile Story

This week's feature Paul Winslow



Paul was born at the US Military Academy at West Point. He grew up in the Buffalo, NY area and was the oldest of three children. His two sisters live in the Erie, PA area having moved there from Ballston Spa, NY and in Fulton, NY. Paul went to Cleveland Hill HS, in Cheektowaga, NY. He went to and graduated from Capital University in Columbus. His major was mathematics with a minor in physical education. He continued his studies and got his master's degree in mathematics from the University of Dayton.

Paul met the love of his life, Jean Fleisher, early in his freshman year at Capital. They dated through college and married after they graduated. Jean was from the Cleveland area and was a graduate of John Marshall HS in Cleveland. They were married at Bethany English Lutheran Church in Cleveland.

Jean and Paul both got jobs in the Brooklyn, Ohio school system. Paul was teaching math and she was teaching third grade. Paul was also coaching football. Jean taught for four years before they started to raise a family. Paul taught in the Brooklyn schools for 31 years before retiring. He only coached football for five years.

In the 1970's two of Paul's teacher friends bought an ice cream/sandwich store. It seemed like an interesting idea, so he got together with another teacher and bought a different one. They ran the store together for about 15 years until Paul bought him out. Although it was a seasonal business, they had a lot of overlapping months where they were teaching and running the store. After he bought his friend out, Paul continued to run the store until 2010, much with the help of his wife. A total of 31 years on that, too. It was a lot easier to run it and gave him something to do after he retired from teaching.

Paul was also a member of the Board of Directors of the Brooklyn School Employees Credit Union and was President for about 20 years until they merged with PSE Credit Union.

Jean and Paul raised two children, Mark, 53 and Laurie, 49. Mark and his wife, Madonna (who they met when she worked for Paul at the ice cream store) live in Charlotte, NC. Mark graduated from Ohio University (master's from Cleveland State) is a pension analyst and Madonna works in the gifts department at Catholic Charities. Laurie started at Valparaiso University and after a 9 month stint in Japan with her husband graduated from the University of Wisconsin. Both her and her husband, John, live in Alexandria, VA and are teachers.

Jean and Paul came to POP when they came over with a dedicated group of parishioners when Saint Andrews Lutheran merged with POP. They always found POP to be a welcoming community. They attended the 11:00 service because, being lifelong Lutherans, they enjoyed the traditional service and hymns.

Over the years he has had several hobbies that include model railroading and dog showing. They raised five different Old English Sheepdogs, only once did they have more than one at a time. They always enjoyed their loving goofy personalities. They were members of the Old English Sheepdog Club of America for over fifty years.

In 2009, their son introduced Jean and Paul to geocaching. One of the descriptions of what it is, is the phrase “We are using the billion-dollar satellite program to hunt Tupperware containers in the woods.” There is a very active group of geocachers in NE Ohio. Jean and Paul (yes, she finally opened her own account) had “cached” in all 50 states and the nine provinces and territories of Canada and a total of eight different countries. They took many memorable and legendary trips that included tourist things and of course geocaching.

Paul lost Jean in 2022.

Since Jean's passing, Paul has been doing even more caching. He has developed a deep personal relationship with one of his geocaching friends and has traveled extensively. In February they spent two and a half weeks traveling in Florida, Georgia, and Alabama. In April they visited one of their enjoyable spots, Nashville. In May they took a trip from an event in New York State to an event in Kansas via the UP of Michigan , Wisconsin and the Dakotas. Not exactly a straight line. In June they spent 10 days visiting Iceland. In August they spent 29 days visiting some events in Oklahoma and Colorado and visiting many of the states between and around. Paul hid a cache on POP property (with permission) back in the woods. Yes, Paul claims he is addicted!

One thing that people may not know about Paul , is that several years ago his son researched their heritage and was able to verify what they were always told that they were related to the Winslow families that came over on the Mayflower!

Please offer Paul a genuine “Peace be with You” when you see him at church. He has much to contribute to our community!

By Tom Robinholt : Profile Reporter