

Rick Propp - August 2014

It is hard to believe it has been 50 years since high school graduation! After graduation, I attended Colorado State University, graduating in 1969 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Psychology. Just prior to graduation, I married Cindy Shelton (class of '66) and we celebrated our 47th wedding anniversary in June 2014.

After receiving my under graduate degree in Psychology, I applied for and was accepted into the Army Medical Specialist Corp's training and internship program. I received a direct commission and was allowed to enroll in CSU's advanced occupational certification program. After completing all my academic requirements, I was assigned to Brooke Army Medical Center (BAMC) at Fort Sam Houston in San Antonio, Texas. It was in San Antonio that I received six weeks of Army basic training. I also received six weeks of combat medic training at the Army Medical Field Service School, located at Fort Sam Houston. My occupational therapy clinical internship program included three main areas: Neuro-surgery, Psychiatry, and Physical Medicine. I also completed a six-week rotation at BAMC's Institute of Surgical Research, also known as the "Burn Unit". Following my internship program, I was assigned to the rehabilitation clinic at BAMC as a staff therapist, where I remained until I left the service in 1974.

After leaving the Army, I joined the Audey Murphy VA Hospital in the Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation as a staff therapist. After 13 years in the field and at age 39, I decided to change careers. To prepare for this career change, I attended night school at University of Texas at San Antonio (UTSA), taking post-graduate courses in the field of business.

In 1984 I accepted a position at USAA Investment Management Company as a management intern. I worked in various positions and was eventually promoted to Director of the Eastern Region of USAA's Investment Sales and Service. While at USAA, I completed several professional designations, including Certified Financial Planning (CFP), Chartered Mutual Fund Counselor (CMFC), the Accredited Asset Management Specialist (AAMS) as well as others. USAA also sent me to Securities Industry Institute at Wharton Business School at the University of Pennsylvania. My last official position at USAA before retiring in 2002 was Director/Business Manager of USAA's newly established Retirement Center.

To recap, I spent 4 ½ years in the U.S. Army Medical Specialist Corps, 13 years at Audey Murphy V.A. Hospital, and 17 years at USAA Investment Management Company. I am still a Registered/Licensed Occupational Therapist (OTR). Our intention was to return to Colorado after completing my military assignment, but God had other plans for our soon-to-be Texas family. We adopted two children from the Edna Gladney Adoption Agency, located in Fort Worth, Texas. Kendra

was born in 1973 and Travis, in 1984. Michael, our only grandson, is now 10 years old.

While I had a dual career, Cindy joined the Broadway National Bank in 1971 upon our arrival in San Antonio. She remained there working in various capacities, contributing to the bank's growth in becoming San Antonio's largest independent bank. She retired in December 2011 as Senior Vice President/District Sales Manager of its Retail Division.

We have enjoyed San Antonio and our twice a year trips to see family in Loveland and surrounding cities. Since retirement I have been able to spend more time hunting. I became a Master Gardener and still enjoy spending time with personal investing. We enjoy traveling some, spending time with our grandson and taking adult education classes in computer and languages.

Favorite Loveland High School Memory:

It is difficult to isolate just one memory from high school. Perhaps just the fact that growing up in a city the size of Loveland, with the mountains in full view and the intimacy of close friends—some whom I knew from grade school...is hard to top.