

Jane & Alex A.



Alex grew up on a small farm in South Georgia; Jane grew up in suburban Philadelphia. We met while working at Old Faithful Lodge, Yellowstone National Park in the summer of 1964, and married in August 1965 after Jane graduated from college and Alex joined the Army. Alex went to Officer Candidate School and was promptly shipped to Vietnam, where he served in Army Intelligence in Saigon. When they asked him to extend his tour – and probably go back to Vietnam within 18 months, he decided to get out and finish college.

After he finished college we moved to Denver, and then to Arnold, Missouri (south of St Louis). In 1975, in Arnold, we responded to an invitation to take an introductory square dance lesson - and although we didn't know then, we all know now where that leads. Those lessons led to Mainstream competence (we think). In 1977 we moved to Valdosta, GA, and since friends of ours wanted to learn to square dance, we again went through lessons. This was the day and age of western shirts and crinolines, and we enjoyed both. We danced regularly from 1975 until about 1980, when our son was about 6 months old. In 1985 we moved to the suburbs of Philadelphia (Wayne). We visited the local square dance club but for some reason it just didn't "click."

In 2003 we both retired from Federal government jobs – Jane from the Department of Housing & Urban Development and Alex from the Defense Contract Management Agency. In 2010 we moved to the Chicago area because our son and daughter-in-law were expecting twins.

In December 2017 we saw an announcement for an introductory square dance lesson in Evanston and thought "why not?!" This time we knew where it would lead! We completed Club 50 and Plus lessons (it's amazing what the body/mind can remember after all these years!). If we're not angeling or dancing, we are probably spending time with the twins.

We love to travel and have travelled to Alaska, Hawaii, England, Scotland, China, Egypt, and southern Africa, along with miscellaneous stops on cruise ships. We have attended square dance weekends or conventions in Iowa, Illinois, Wisconsin, and Indiana.

Jane is on the Board of Glenview Squares and we angel with some regularity. We place square dancing high on our list of priorities because we find it so enjoyable, and the dance community so welcoming and such fun.