

SUMMERFIELD SENTINEL

Assisted & Independent Living Community

October 2019

Resident Spotlight: Ally Storm

INSIDE THIS ISSUE:

Resident Spotlight	1, 3
Birthdays	4
Beauty Salon	4
Information	6



I was born of Dutch parents. My mom from Apeldoorn and my dad from Amsterdam. After the divorce from his first wife, my dad came to live in Indonesia, which was, at that time, the Dutch East Indies. That is where he met my mom, who was living in Indonesia at the time.

My mom was a dental hygienist at the time, I believe, and my dad was a concert pianist. He played classical music, so I grew up hearing him practice and play all the time. In fact, my 1st sister and I grew up having fun singing what he used to play. Often dad would have an accompaniment of a violin or a horn or another piano and my sister and I learned the harmonies and we'd sing them. Classical music was all we knew before moving to New Zealand. We lived a very sheltered life in Indonesia because of the high crime rate and we had 4 watch dogs. We had a very big house then and the Dutch Guilder (Dutch currency) went far, so things in Indonesia were cheap.

I have 2 sisters and a brother who live in Australia and London, UK now. My siblings were all born in Indonesia and we lived there until President Sukarno wanted independence from the Dutch and threw all the Dutch out of the country, basically making us refugees. We all left there with one suitcase to our name each and that's about it. We didn't have any winter clothes at all when we left. It was winter in New Zealand, where we chose to immigrate to in 1958. When we arrived in New Zealand, the Catholic nuns provided us with winter clothes. We all went to Catholic school growing up.

In New Zealand, we lived in a house on a hill overlooking the valley, with a beautiful view of the mountains beyond that. So, coming to Utah was like coming home for me in a way because it reminded me so much of New Zealand.

I was 9 years old when I came to New Zealand without being able to speak one word of English, so my first sister (born a year after I was) and I went back to 1st grade (or the New Zealand equivalent thereof) to learn to speak, read and write English, so we ended up being behind a year from the kids of our own age.

(Cont. on pg. 3)

We were both treated like we were stupid by our peers a lot of the time. I hated school and dropped out the moment my dad let me. My mom knew the difficulties I had with bullying and she may have been the influencer for my dad being more lenient about it. School and education were very important to my father since he was a high school and university teacher since he came to New Zealand and until he retired. Later I joined the New Zealand Air Force, where I met my first ex-husband who was an American Sailor and was stationed at the American base in Christchurch, New Zealand. I would often go to the Enlisted Club on the American base to go dancing. I immigrated to America after marrying him at my home town in Dunedin, New Zealand, where my parents lived, then he and I lived in Rhode Island until we got divorced.

After divorcing I took a job at a plastic factory molding beads for a while then a janitor's job at the Navy base in Newport, Rhode Island, where I finished my high school degree, then joined the Navy myself, where I also acquired my US citizenship, and started going to college. I started as an Airman and retired as a First-Class Petty Officer. I stayed in the Navy for 20 years and it was the best career I ever had. I was a lot more comfortable in the Military than I ever was in the civilian world. I guess it's the structure. I always knew where I stood. I got my associate's degree in graphic design after I got stationed in California and retired from the Navy.

In the Navy, I got stationed in many different places including: Subic Bay, the Philippines, Mississippi, San Diego, Pearl Harbor, and back to San Diego. I started singing karaoke when I was in the Navy and lived for singing! Music has always been the core of my being.

I grew up singing with my sister, even though it was just for fun, but it was something that's always been a joyful experience for me. Now, singing is my "therapy". Music has always been my life.

I retired from the Navy in California and made my home there for 20 years. There, I met a man named Mike and we were together for 7 years and lived in Escondido. We started a business together karaoke hosting, some call it karaoke DJ-ing or KJ-ing. I was also working at the VA at the time, so I was pretty secure. We split up but kept the business going. He is still running it to this day.

In 2013, after I retired from the VA, I moved to Utah, and never regretted it. I decided to move to Summerfield in January, 2019. It's been really hard having no family or friends close by when I moved into Summerfield, but I gained a lot of really beautiful friends here.

I'm in a good place now and my health has improved since I moved to Summerfield. I love the people, the staff and one of the things that determined me to move to Summerfield was the fact that I had my own washer and drier, dishwasher and I liked the food. I hope to stay here till I die.





“Summerfield Retirement”

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Summerfield Birthdays!

Manor

- Luana Nielson – Oct. 10th
- Blaine Smith – Oct. 16th
- Gwen Johnson – Oct. 20th
- Gladys Orr – Oct. 25th

SRC

- Richard Lufkin – Oct. 8th
- Jesse Jarvis – Oct. 11th
- Sandra Harvey – Oct. 19th
- Abe Lue – Oct. 22nd

Staff

- Ammon Whiteley – Oct. 1st
- Kayden Cox – Oct. 5th
- Madison Draper – Oct. 25th



Beauty Shop Hours:

Heather Jarvis 801-885-6046	Monday	10:00am-3:00pm
	Wednesday	10:00am-3:00pm
	Thursday	10:00am-3:00pm

Mark your calendars!

**Summerfield
Manor's Halloween
Carnival**
October 7th
7:00 PM - 8:00 PM

Trick-or-Treating, door
decorating contest, spook
alley, refreshments, prizes,
games and more!



Summerfield Retirement
911 N. 800 W.
Orem, Utah 84057

Phone: 801-434-7581

Fax: 801-802-9078

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