

I completed nursing school and got my RN (Registered Nurse) then married Bob Carlson (class of '57) We bought a house in Livonia, and lived there, added two sons, then eventually moved to Brighton in 1976

I stayed home with the boys until they were in high school, then returned to nursing at U of M Hospitals in Ann Arbor, to the operating rooms, where I was staff nurse, and then in charge of a neurosurgery operating room. I eventually moved on to be in charge of an orthopedic operating room, where I stayed until I retired in 1997

Our small farm in Brighton helped us teach our sons responsibilities, since we raised animals on a small-time basis. The boys wanted horses, so we got involved in 4-H, and the boys "showed" their horses in our county fairs. That was a lot of work, and a lot of fun!

Colored glass called out to me, and I had started collecting Depression Glass in the 1960s, before it even had a name, and then in 1972, a friend and I started the Michigan Depression Glass Society, which is still going strong today. I've since gone into other "antique" fields, and this led me to desire a Victorian home.

Eight years ago, I started working with an architect, and we designed a "new Victorian" house, which we then built. I've been collecting hardware, doors, sinks, and furniture to furnish the house for a long time, and it's been great fun finally being able to pull it all together! We only moved in last year around Thanksgiving time, and we are still working on completing the house.

One son lives near us, in Brighton, and has an eight year old daughter, and we see them frequently. The other son, however, has lived all over the place--Colorado, California, Virginia, New York, Texas, and now Illinois, but they will very soon add Ohio to their list. The two grandsons there are middle and high school age, but we don't see them but a few times a year.

Nancy (Frederick) Carlson



Robert Carlson

After high school, I attended Lawrence Tech in Southfield. Nancy and I were married, then shortly after that, I was drafted, sent to Camp Drum in upper New York state, where we lived for five months, then I was sent to Korea. Upon my discharge and return home, we bought a house in Livonia, added two sons, and lived there until we moved to Brighton.

In Livonia, I was working at the Volkswagen distributorship as Service Manager, then eventually I quit there and went to Detroit Diesel as a service engineer, specializing in injectors, marine diesel, and governors. When we moved to Brighton, I stayed at Diesel, until the merger with Roger Penske in the 1980s, when I took early retirement.

My lifelong hobby of shooting and hunting is still very important in my lifestyle, and I have competed in both pistol and rifle matches, winning my Distinguished Pistol Shooter, a Presidential award, in the 1980s. I still enjoy hunting, even though Nancy tells me to NOT bring home any more animals.

I've been on elk hunts in Colorado and Idaho, and caribou hunts in northern Canada and Newfoundland., plus deer hunts right here in Michigan.

About ten years ago, I was able to complete a lifelong goal, when I went with a friend to Switzerland (where I competed in an international pistol match) and then I went on to Africa on a one-on-one hunt. My guide was the district game warden, and he and I went to areas he knew of to hunt gazelles, antelope, biersbucks, and several other plains animals. He introduced me to his friend, Timmy, the anteater, and allowed me to watch while he fed wild lions from a pickup truck. Since it was in his district, he was able to take me into a diamond mine, where I watched them mining diamonds. We had to wear coveralls, WITHOUT pockets!