

**Barbara (Ostrander)  
Packard**



Howard Parker and I were married on October 15, 1966 (Sweetest Day). Howard is a graduate of Farmington High School class of 1949 (he played football with Ed Bryant, one of our teachers). Howard has two daughters from a previous marriage (Paula & Lisa). We have one grandson, five granddaughters, and two great-grandchildren. One of the greatest highlights of life was becoming a "grandma".

I attended one year at Wayne State University and then transferred to Detroit Bible Institute (later became a Detroit Bible College and then William Tyndale College). I graduated in May of 1961 with a diploma in Music-Christian Education. I applied to the School of Education at Wayne State University but it was full so I took evening college classes at Detroit Bible College. In the fall of 1986, I went to William Tyndale College and took classes so in May of 1987, I received an Associates of Arts Degree. While attending Detroit Bible College, I was a member of the DBC Ensemble, Choir and the Chorale. I took organ lessons and play for church services and am presently the organist for my home church. Both Howard and I are very active in our church.

Unfortunately in 1991, I had to place my mother in a nursing home following surgery for a brain tumor. While she was there, I volunteer to play for the church services, and after my mother passed away, I continue to play for them and still play for the services on Sunday mornings. It is so rewarding to see those sad faces turn into smiling faces when we go and give them a smile and a hug. Who gets the greatest blessing?

During my last year at Detroit Bible College in 1960, I began working part-time in the City Clerk's Office for the City of Southfield until May 1963 when I took a full-time position with the City of Southfield as a Secretary. (Miss Brown wanted me to apply to the federal government for a secretarial position when I graduated from high school. My response to her was "a secretary is the last thing I want to be." Well Miss Brown, that is exactly what I was for the City of Southfield for almost 36 years.) I used my shorthand for recording minutes of the City Council Planning Commission, City Centre Advisory Board, Tax Increment Finance Authority, and Economic Development Corporation. In February of 1996, I retired from the City of Southfield.

I enjoy some hobbies like knitting, crocheting, sewing and quilting to name a few. We have been fortunate enough to be able to spend some of the cold weather season in Florida visiting family and friends. We have a motor home and have been to several states as well as Hawaii and Alaska, never thought I would ever get there.

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