

Sent 4/4/2020

Subj - End of An Era (April 2020)

Hi Friends and Family,

Today we write with a VERY heavy AND sad heart!

This week we sold our beloved RV. When we purchased our 36 foot "home on wheels" in 2006 we had no idea of the FANTASTIC trips and memories ahead of us. We have visited ALL of the lower 48 states. We have seen every corner of our awesome and wonderful country.

In our 13 years "on the road" we visited friends and family from one end of the country to the other. We drove across open plains, through deserts, forests, and mountains (including over the Rocky Mountains twice) during the over 80,000 miles we traveled.

The highlights of EVERY one of our annual trips were our visits with our family; Jerry's sons and our grand daughter and Jerry's sister & brothers and their families, and Del's brother and his family

There are too many GREAT memories to list them all, however, the MAJOR highlight of ALL our trips was the week we were able to spend in Denver, CO with our grand daughter, Sarah

During that visit we also blessed to enjoy family time with Kelly (Sky) and Ania, and with Shaun & Sarah

During our travels the full range of weather, including wind, rain, and snow welcomed us to their part of the country; we experienced temps from near 0 degrees to nearly 100 degrees; even though the weather was sometimes a bother - it was NEVER overly serious, including the snow, sleet, and ice on Raton Pass as we traveled from Colorado into New Mexico

We captured so many fantastic and awesome views and memories of our travels in thousands of photos and videos

We tried to keep you up to date on our travels through our frequent "Trip Reports."

We met so many VERY nice people during our travels, some were fellow travelers, others helpful repair folks, and still others were campground managers

Some of the more memorable include:

**Carla in Lusk, WY** - We met her & Harold during one of our early RV trips at an art show at the Wyoming state fair in Douglas, WY; she is a world class artist and Del attended a few of her art classes in Lusk; she & Del became VERY good friends, and we would plan a special trip for a visit whenever we were within 100 miles of Lusk

**Linda in Lusk, WY** - She owned BJ's Campground; her smiling face and loud "Welcome Home" would greet us each time we stayed in Lusk (More than 5 times)

**The young couple from Park City, UT** we met in the Jail Cafe in Moab UT; one morning the place was "waiting room only" and we invited them to join us for breakfast

**The RV tow truck driver and repair man who rescued us in Ellensburg, WA** when we lost ALL electrical power (on the Interstate) - very scary! He towed us twice because this was a holiday weekend and their shop was closed - first to the RV Park and then on Monday to their repair shop

**The RV repair man who picked Jerry up from Ted's Montana Restaurant in Orange Park, FL** and drove him to the Naval Base to work on our refrigerator; especially nice since this was "after hours" on a holiday week-end and his "day off"

**Jim & Judy**, our very good square dancing friends, we visited them several times on our many trips through Denver, CO; we especially enjoyed our visits the the center when they were in charge of the ice cream shop; we were VERY pleased they were able to attend Del's 80th birthday party, last year

**The couple from Connecticut we met in Arches National Park near Moab,UT;** we saw them at several of the other sights in the area during our week stay in the Moab area

**The two German couples who were on an RV tour of America;** they invited us to join them and we had a great visit around a campfire and enjoyed stories of the road, guitar music, and singing; we tried to interest them in S'mores, but only had one taker

**The young couple** who had recently purchased the KOA campground from his father in Cheyenne, WY

**The young woman who "rescued" us in Alabama,** after we lost our way VERY late at night on the country back roads near Mobile, AL; she guided us back to civilization

**Julie & Tom** - Owners of the Pony Soldier RV Campground near Ft Laramie in Eastern Wyoming; they always welcomed us with a big smile and whatever help we may have needed; Julie and Del became friends and went shopping and to "Tea" a couple of times in Torrington, NE, about 20 miles away; we always enjoyed playing "fetch" with their very big & very friendly dog, we were sad to hear he had passed just before our visit last year

There are SO MANY more wonderful people and memories we can not even come close to including them all; needless to say - GREAT - GREAT - GREAT - AWESOME and Happy memories

We say thanks for the memories and to each of you for encouraging us along our way!!

We will miss our RV travels.

Jerry & Del