



FRANKE TOBEY JONES

Meet Residents Bob and Joan Garden

Joan was born in St. Louis, MO, obtained a BA in education at Washington University in St. Louis and taught primary grades. Bob grew up in a suburb of St. Louis, attended two years of college at Washington University and completed his BS in electrical engineering at Purdue in Indiana. After graduation and military commission, he served on active duty in the Signal Corps at Ft. Monmouth, NJ and six years in the National Guard.

Bob and Joan met in St. Louis in 1959 and were married in 1960. Their first two children were born in Syracuse, NY. While there, Bob worked in engineering and marketing during the early days of semiconductor development. Joan continued teaching school until their first child arrived and became a full time mom. They moved to Phoenix, AZ, soon after the birth of their second daughter.

Bob worked for GE for 39 years and moved with his family every four years as he received promotions. Their son was born in 1967 and the family moved to Bellevue, WA where Bob continued working for GE's medical imaging business and Joan continued teaching.

In 1979 the Garden family moved to the Gig Harbor area so Bob would be closer to his customers. Joan became the Religious Education Director at Temple Beth El, Tacoma. In addition to this responsibility, she earned her MA in Education at Pacific Lutheran University in 1982. She taught second grade and eventually retired from the Tacoma Public School District.

Celebrating their wonderful 58 years of marriage this past August, Bob and Joan agreed to downsize. They evaluated many communities in WA and CA and chose to continue their independent living at FTJ in our Garden Apartments because we offer a continuum of care when needed. They enjoy many of the programs, classes and transportation provided by FTJ buses along with the Fitness Center. Joan attends Tai Chi classes and feels safe walking Petra, their Labradoodle, throughout the campus and nearby trails. Joan's interest lies in quilting, teaching Hebrew at Temple Beth El, and frequently playing Bridge and Mah Jongg. Bob's hobbies are amateur radio and woodworking in our FTJ workshop. They are very happy to be here!



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