



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

David Foote

David was born and spent his early childhood in Bradford, Pennsylvania, about 75 miles south of Buffalo, New York. Buffalo, birthplace of the Zippo lighter, was also home to Bradford Supply Company, which employed David's father. When David was in elementary school, the family relocated to the company offices for Bradford Supply in Robinson, Illinois. Bradford's main business was supplying equipment for oil fields, and the location in Robinson was established in the early 1900s during the first oil boom in the area. David grew up as the middle child between two sisters - Marilyn and Janis. He developed a passion for golf and was a star golfer in high school who received a scholarship to play at Eastern Illinois University. After a stint in the US Air Force, David returned to Robinson and also worked at Bradford, beginning as a delivery driver and rising to the position of VP of Sales and Marketing in his 26-year career, where he oversaw locations in Illinois, Indiana, Kentucky and Wyoming. He also developed the logo that is still in use by the company today. In 1961, David met his wife Sherrell (Sherry) Cochran. Though both grew up in the small town of Robinson, David was a few years older and did not know Sherry while in school. When they met, Sherry was a college student in Missouri at Cottey College. After her graduation, the two married and relocated to Princeton, Indiana with Bradford. Sherry, a journalist, worked for the newspaper in Princeton. A few years later, their only child Ann Marie arrived, and when she was a toddler, they returned to Robinson, again with Bradford.

IN THIS ISSUE

**GET TO KNOW
DAVID**

**EDUCATION,
PROFESSION &
FAMIY**

**WHY
WESTMINSTER?**

WESTMINSTER
VILLAGE

After time at a weekly newspaper in Robinson, Sherry landed in a public relations role at LS Heath & Sons, better known as Heath Candy Co. where she eventually rose to the position of Director of Marketing and Public Relations. When the family-owned Heath was sold to a foreign corporation, and with Ann Marie off at college (Cottey College and Drake University), David & Sherry purchased a video rental business in Robinson, and Foote's Video was a booming business on the square in Robinson for many years. While David ran the business, Sherry pursued a calling in the ministry. She attended St. Paul School of Theology in Kansas City and was ordained as a United Methodist minister. Sherry's first full-time role as a pastor took her to Rossville, Illinois, just north of Danville, and David began his favorite role as a "pastor's wife!" After selling the video business, David moved to Rossville with Pastor Sherry, helping out where possible, and diving into one of his other hobbies - Civil War research. During this time period, Ann Marie moved to Terre Haute from Missouri to become Director of Marketing and Public Relations at Saint Mary-of-the Woods College. After only a few years as a pastor, Sherry became ill with cancer, and the pair returned "home" to Robinson, where Sherry passed away in 2003. David immersed himself in his golf, fishing, and Civil War research hobbies.

He spent time in Florida with Hall of Fame golfer Annika Sorenstam at the Annika Academy, and as an amateur historian, spent countless hours documenting the history and unique story of the Robinson Open - a golf tournament on the PGA Tour from 1968 to 1973.

In December 2022, David moved to Westminster to be closer to his daughter Ann Marie, who is the Director of Marketing for Terre Haute Regional Hospital, and also works as a travel advisor through her business Haute Adventures. He has enjoyed getting to know the other residents at Westminster and especially enjoys his time with the Ukulele Club, which he originally joined to help with memory and coordination. He loves spending time at the casino and never turns down an opportunity for a field trip or an ice cream trip!

Open was played at the Crawford County Country Club (now Quail Creek) in Robinson and drew some of golf's biggest names at the time.

A longtime bass fisherman, David has fished in most central US lakes...along with one in Honduras! He is a two-time graduate of the Indiana State University Bass Fishing Institute. His Civil War research has taken him all over the eastern US, and he has contributed to numerous websites and books including The 11th Missouri Volunteer Regiment by Dennis Belcher (Union and a part of the famous Eagle Brigade). He also contributed to The Prairie Boys Go To War: The Fifth Illinois Cavalry by Rhonda M. Kohl, and has written several vignettes which are posted on the website The Western Theater in the Civil War. He has completed the history of the almost 1,000 Civil War soldiers buried in Crawford County, Illinois.

During his time traveling for Civil War research, David was able to visit several Hall of Fame museums including the Baseball, NBA, Boxing, NFL, NCAA Football, Women's Basketball and Golf. An avid sports fan, David was an early adopter of Fantasy Football, and for nearly 40 years he managed the "Flat Rock Falcons." His meticulous research (long before there was the internet) prior to each year's draft led to numerous league wins.