

RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

Carol Levy

Carol Levy, born on February 22, 1942, in Greenport, Long Island, New York, has lived a life full of family, teaching, and community. Her father, Mervin, came to the United States from Russia at the age of seven with his two sisters and parents. Mervin's grandfather was a skilled tailor who made suits as well as the family's clothes. Mervin later managed a Bohack supermarket before opening his own business, Sterling Market, at the tip of Long Island. Carol's mother, Josephine, was born in Oklahoma City and met Mervin after moving to New York. She chose to stay home to raise Carol and her younger brother, who was born five years later.

When Carol was born, her father was drafted into the war. Though he was allowed to stay for her birth, he left the next day. Her mother moved to Manhattan to live with family while Mervin was away. Carol vividly remembers asking her mother whenever she saw a man in uniform, "Is that my daddy?" After two and a half years, her father returned home, and soon after, her brother was born. Growing up in Greenport, Carol attended one school that housed all grades, kindergarten through twelfth. Her graduating class of 64 was considered large for the community. Greenport, just 110 miles from New York City, was a lively place where no home sat more than a mile from

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water. Each summer, local families and seasonal residents took turns hosting parties, and Carol grew up surrounded by gatherings, tourists, and the joys of coastal living. From the age of two, she was enrolled in Red Cross swimming lessons, becoming an avid swimmer. However, a heart murmur diagnosed at birth limited her participation in athletics, and she was monitored in a long-term medical study throughout her youth.

Carol attended LaSalle College in Boston and later earned her early education degree at Mills College of Education in New York. Around this time, she met her future husband, Robert "Bob" Levy, who was pursuing a career in psychology. Bob became a professor of experimental psychology, eventually teaching at Indiana State University. The couple married the week Carol graduated, and after Bob completed his PhD in Connecticut, the two settled in Terre Haute, where they built a home in Woodgate. Carol and Bob raised two daughters, Laura and Deborah. Laura became a researcher for Eli Lilly and contributed to the development of Humalog, now retired and living in Zionsville with her husband and two children. Deborah built her career in corporate sales and lives in Louisville, Kentucky, with her husband and three children. Carol is the proud grandmother of five; three boys and two girls. She fondly recalls being a classroom mother and always making sure her daughters' friends felt welcome in their home.

Though Carol and Bob later divorced, she continued raising her daughters in Woodgate until eventually moving to Greenbrier. Over the years, she became a member of the Terre Haute Country Club, and later, thanks to the encouragement of friends, she made Westminster Village her home. Here, Carol has found the perfect balance of independence and community support. She enjoys exercising, socializing, and sharing her warm smile with those around her.

Carol also cherishes a unique memory from her younger years. Once, while visiting a friend's beach house, she discovered it was right next door to the Kennedy family's residence. The Kennedys were kind and gracious, often inviting her and her friend over during their visits.

Another highlight came during her husband's sabbatical in Oxford, England, where she discovered the art of brass rubbings—creating textured prints from brass headstones and plaques. Residents will have the opportunity to view her beautiful brass rubbings at our next Resident Speaker Series on October 9 at 2 p.m. in the Media Room.

Reflecting on her life at Westminster, Carol says there is nothing she doesn't like. The friendships, care, and sense of community make it a place she is proud to call home.