



RESIDENT OF THE MONTH

Liz Tuttle

Liz Tuttle's life story is shaped by faith, family, service, and a lasting sense of curiosity. Born and raised in Chicago, Liz grew up in a large, close-knit family. Both of her parents came from families of nine children; her father of Italian heritage and her mother of German descent; an upbringing that instilled in her a strong sense of community and connection. Liz was the youngest of three, with a sister fourteen years older and a brother five years older, giving her a perspective shaped by both independence and deep family bonds.

From kindergarten through college, Liz attended Catholic schools. When she was fifteen, her family moved from Chicago to the suburbs, and she later attended Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College in Terre Haute, Indiana. While in school, Liz worked like a "Kelly girl," filling temporary office positions during holiday breaks, an experience that helped her build professional skills and adaptability early on.

Liz's life took a meaningful turn after a blind date with Rick; one she initially dismissed, but which ultimately led to a marriage that has lasted 59 years. The couple married in July 1966,

IN THIS ISSUE

GET TO KNOW LIZ

EDUCATION, PROFESSION & FAMILY

WHY WESTMINSTER?



Rick's career in the Air Force took them to several places, including an especially memorable four-and-a-half-year stay in Zaragoza & Madrid, Spain.

Living in Spain left a lasting impression on Liz. She enjoyed having her cousin and family living there during this time. In Madrid, she and Rick lived on the lower level of a woman's home, when a phone line crossed with a nearby convent, resulting in amusing misdirected calls. Liz arrived in Spain with a dog and returned with that same dog and two daughters. She often reflects on that time as one of the most formative chapters of her life and has enjoyed her return trips.

After returning to the United States, Liz remained deeply involved in service and education. She taught preschool at St. Benedict Catholic Church, serving in numerous roles including parish council member, board of education member, lector, Eucharistic minister. She also volunteered at the St Benedict soup kitchen until the COVID-19 pandemic. Liz's professional career was both extensive and varied. Liz taught elementary school in New Jersey and Indiana. She served as Assistant Director of the Vigo County Historical Museum, worked part-time at the Hamilton Center, became Executive Director of Arts Illiana, and spent many years in alumni relations at Saint Mary-of-the-Woods College and Indiana State University.

While at ISU, Liz managed the alumni travel program, organizing trips

throughout Europe and beyond. She officially retired in 2010 but continued working with the ISU Alumni Association's travel group for an additional five years. Through these travels, Liz visited Italy, France, Ireland, England, Scotland, Cuba, and Spain; a place she never wanted to leave. One of the alumni groups was stranded in Ireland during 9/11 and ultimately returned to the U.S. on the first officially cleared flight after the attacks.

Liz's connection to Westminster Village began years before she moved in. While living in Terre Haute, she toured the community and immediately felt drawn to Westminster. At the time, she and Rick decided they were content in their condo. Later, as they revisited the idea of moving, Rick was clear that if they relocated, Westminster Village would be their choice. A second visit confirmed that decision.

Since moving to Westminster Village, Liz has remained actively engaged in community life, continuing a lifelong pattern of faith, service, curiosity, and connection. She currently serves as Vice President of the Resident Association, heads the Dining Committee, serves on the Library Committee, participates in the Village Travelers group, and enjoys dominoes, bingo, and attending morning exercise classes.