



## SENIOR NUGGET – SEPTEMBER 2018

In June, 1926, Eugene “Gene” Burgess was born in Washington D. C. to Frank and Evelyn Burgess. He has spent most of his life in the DC area. Gene attended McKinley grade school and then McKinley High School. After graduation, he went for two years to Maryland University, now University of Maryland.

Gene served his country in the Army Air Force for eighteen months and continued to serve another four years in the National Guard.

In 1947 Gene married Marion Gray. They were married 65 years before she passed away. Gene and Marion were blessed with two sons, Eugene, Jr. and Dale. They are the proud grandparents of two grandchildren and three great grandchildren, who attended Atholton Academy for a number of years. His Daughter-in-law, Erlene, has been a faculty member at Atholton Academy for a number of years.

Gene began his career in Food Sales, a position he held for forty years. He is a twin-engine commercial pilot. Gene provided air taxi service before changing careers to General Contracting, which he did for twenty years. During the contractor years, Gene and crew built several medical buildings and he was one of the contractors that worked with Enos Levy on the 18,000 square foot expansion of the current Atholton Academy.

A few years after Marion’s death, he married Hannah Eppel in 2014. They reside six months in Maryland and six months in Florida. Recently Gene mentioned to his Sabbath School Class (GIFT) they have plans to sell his Maryland home and may become Floridians in the near future.

Gene has been active in the Atholton Church. He has served as an Elder, Deacon and was on the School Board. Gene is also known to have quite a green thumb. In the spring and summer months, his home is surrounded by beautiful flowers, especially Dahlias, which he shares with his church family.

When asked what is favorite Bible verse was, he stated **JOHN 3:16** and his favorite hymn is -- **In The Garden**.

Gene has traveled to the Bahamas six times, has ridden his motorcycle twice across the USA. He has taken two cruises to the Caribbean. In his spare time, he enjoys building stereo systems and remarked he once remodeled an Air Stream Trailer and built a “46” Ford!

Through Gene, Enos, Frank, and other members, the Atholton church and school have seen many improvements and updates, to meet today’s standards. We are grateful to have Gene and Hannah as part of the Atholton Church Family. We wish them the best in their future plans.

~ **SENIOR DAY AT ATHOLTON – September 22, 2018 - More information in Infosheet** ~

**HAPPY BIRTHDAY TO ALL CELEBRATING ONE IN SEPTEMBER**

## SENIOR NUGGET – SEPTEMBER 2018



### Cheerie Lou Capman

Our church is blessed with a lot of talented people to keep it operating smoothly. One hidden gem was recently found, in a most unusual location ...the church office! Our own church administrative assistant wears multiple hats and is the hidden gem that keeps the office wheels turning smoothly. In her reserved, behind-the-scene manner, she does multiple church tasks such as producing the weekly bulletin and infosheet as well as scheduling facility use and other miscellaneous activities in a professional and efficient manner.

Cheerie Lou was born in Takoma Park, Maryland to Elmer and Vera Capman in June 1947. Her parents were doubly blessed on her arrival, since her twin sister, Linda Gay, followed her ten minutes later. The girls joined their older brother, Jimmy, in completing the Capman family unit. Cheerie Lou's twin sister resides in Dufur, Oregon, and has two adult children. Her brother lives in Fredericksburg, VA.

Cheerie Lou's father was born in Canada and her mother in New York state. The family went as missionaries to the Philippines where her father was superintendent of the Philippine Publishing House and her mother worked at the Philippine Union Office. When they returned from mission service, her father worked at the Review and Herald Publishing Association in Takoma Park, Maryland.

Cheerie Lou's mother had several jobs but ended up working for IBM in their Human Resources area. After retiring from IBM, she worked part time at Columbia Union College (now Washington Adventist University) in the Registrar's office for many years.

After returning from the Philippines, Cheerie Lou attended John Nevins Andrews School (JNA) then went to Shenandoah Valley Academy. She earned two Bachelor's degrees, one from Southern Adventist University and one from Washington Adventist University, and a Master's degree from Andrews University. Her career consisted of a variety of jobs from draftsman for two years, a teacher for fifteen years, a hospital medical clerk for three years and worked for the federal government at National Institutes of Health (NIH) for 23 years in the medical records area of the Clinical Center and in the Center for Information Technology.

Since retiring, she has held several part-time positions. She was with Montgomery County Senior Center 1 year, at Beltsville Adventist School library 3 years and worked at our Atholton Adventist Academy library for 3 years. Cheerie Lou has been part-time Administrative Assistant for the Atholton Church, almost four years. In her spare time, Cheerie Lou enjoys crocheting, watercolor/acrylic painting, and bike riding. Her favorite Bible text is: Revelation 21:1-7 and favorite hymn: *When We All Get To Heaven*.

Cheerie Lou has four nieces, two nephews, four grand-nieces, seven grand-nephews, two great grand nieces and the entire Atholton Church Family. We are blessed to have Cheerie Lou here. We thank her for all she does for the pastoral staff and church. When asked what advice she has for future leaders: she said it comes from her father: **“Always leave a place better than you found it!” Fantastic Advice!**