

# New Member Spotlight: Rick Jones

At 9 years old, a 3<sup>rd</sup> grade classmate from Hong Kong gave me my first stamp album and several packets of Asian stamps. That's where my love of philately began. Both my brother and I collected while we lived in Bangkok, Thailand with my military father and mother. Dad was stationed with the American Embassy in Bangkok (1965-67) during the Vietnam war. During that deployment, our family traveled to the Philippines, Okinawa, Vietnam, and India. It was especially exciting to see Thailand, the Taj Mahal, and a bit of Saigon. I don't think civilians were really supposed to be in Vietnam at that time, but we were there. My childhood was thrilling and adventurous. I still own the album my friend gave me.



The family then moved to Robins Air Force Base in Georgia. Not much collecting happened the 2 years we were there. None of my friends collected stamps. We then moved to Frankfurt Germany where my dad was a Military courier with the embassy. My collecting picked up and now I had a chance to readily see more European stamps.

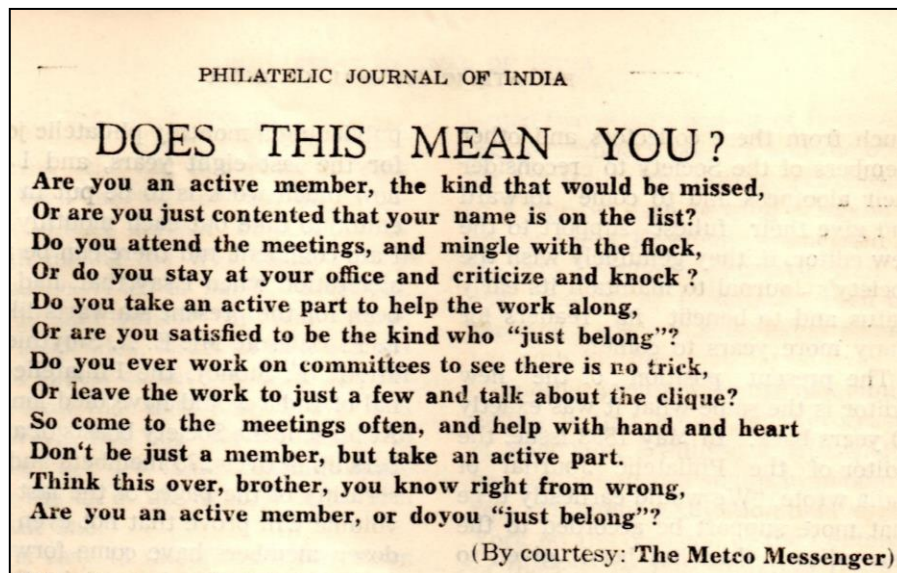
Three years later we were back in the states living in Deland, Florida. Now at 15 years old I was more interested in girls than stamps. High school and college came and went, but little collecting was done by me. But my mother kept buying me American stamps: sheets, plate blocks, singles, FDC, and commemoratives. This occurred for 2 decades. During this time my high school sweetheart, Lori, and I married (1978). We raised 2 wonderful children, Mandy, and Chris, who have significant others of their own. Mandy lives in Monteverde, Florida with her husband, Todd, and Chris calls Myrtle Beach, South Carolina home, with his finance, Alana.

In 1980, a wealthy bank customer of mine ignited a spark to rekindle my collecting passion. He had an extensive collection of US stamps. And that year, I probably did the best thing for my collection, purchase a Scott National Postage Stamp Album. Now my American stamp collection had a good home. I continued the hobby off and on, but really didn't pursue it the way I wanted until I neared retirement. Life and bills seemed to curtail my Philatelic pursuit. Then in July of 2015 I met the folks from the Browse House in Holly Hill, Florida. Their advice and friendship have been invaluable.

Now retired from teaching, Lori and I live on our 3 ½ acres in Deland. Oh yes, I thank my mother for me being a philatelist. She is almost 91 now and still loves when I show her my new acquisitions. Her name is Genevieve, and she is beautiful.

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## A Thoughtful Piece Provided by Peter Rieman



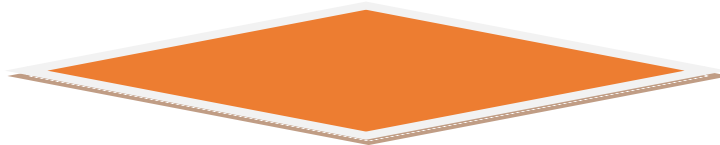
## Closed Album: Ruth Pearl



Ruth C. Pearl, 98, of Orlando, Florida, passed away peacefully at her home on March 28, 2021, embraced by those she loved dearly. On February 23, 1923, she was born to her caring parents Irving Freedman and Cecilia Freedman and raised in Brooklyn, New York, with her sister Susan “Sue” Freedman. In early adulthood, Ruth married Stanley Pearl and resided in New Jersey. She briefly modeled for magazines and would raise four successful sons: David, Arthur, Daniel, and Michael Pearl. Ruth was a proud homemaker, amateur pianist, American mint stamp collector, and lover of classical music and the fine arts. In her later years, she pursued a successful career as an art dealer and founded Ruth Pearl Gallery in Montvale, New Jersey. In the final decades of her life, she retired to Orlando, Florida. She resided with her son Arthur Pearl, daughter-in-law Ainy Pearl, and grandchildren: Rachel, Richard, and Ryan Pearl. Ruth was a devoted mother and grandmother to her family. To her final days, she was a fan of great food, western novels, and classical cinema – having read virtually every book published by her favorite western writer Louis L’Amour and watched every film starring her favorite actor, John Wayne.

Source: <https://www.dignitymemorial.com/obituaries/gotha-fl/ruth-pearl-10156153>

[Editor’s note: Ruth joined the CFSC in March of 2012. At the time of Ruth’s passing, she was the oldest member of the CFSC]



## Closed Album: Karen Archbold

One of the most difficult parts of being the newsletter editor is having to announce the passing of a beloved club member who made profound contributions to the club. Karen became an official member of the CFSC family in April of 2018 but had been an unofficial member for many years previously as she often joined her husband Jim at club meetings, shows and other events – going back to 2003. She passed away at the age of 81 on June 18<sup>th</sup> after a brief illness. She leaves behind her husband Jim of nearly 58 years, two daughters and numerous other close friends and family. Karen’s constant



good cheer was infectious (in a good way) – she always had a smile and a kind word to exchange with anyone she encountered. I was in awe of her. Karen was by professional training a nurse – as an LPN she worked tirelessly in hospitals in IL & FL for more than 40 years. She and Jim relocated to Florida in 1998 as they sought a warmer climate in retirement.

Since 2016, Karen handled the preparation of the post cards for all the local stamp shows. It was a chore that she excelled at and performed with distinction and accuracy – often assisted by husband Jim! Karen will be missed, rest in peace my friend.

Write up by Francis Ferguson. Picture to right supplied by Robert Ridgeway.

