

50th Anniversary

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Once upon a time there were 2 Adjective teenagers growing up in Central Illinois. The town of Bradford was very small and Adjective. On a good day, it may be considered Adjective. It was surrounded by farms and full of working class families. Cathy Laurenti was the middle of five children and her attention-seeking nature was not often appreciated by the nuns. Eddie Foutch was the youngest of four and only knew how to take orders, as the youngest on a working farm, driving tractors and following his older brother's lead. They met at Bradford High. She was a cheerleader and he was a 3-sport athlete for the Panthers. Eddie had to constantly ward off the advances of Cathy's arch nemesis, Mary Ann Furges, but they overcame it. Cathy cheered Eddie on during an undefeated championship football season. A year older, Cathy graduated and headed north to DeKalb for college and Eddie finished up his senior year at BHS. At this time, "Caddie" took their one and only break.

Eddie matured enough to woo back her heart as he graduated and headed off to Champaign. While he dreamed of flying, he also studied to be a high school shop teacher. With the help of Cathy who was teaching high school English at the time, Eddie was able to skate by with her help with his Art History final. They married in Bradford on August 10th, 1968 surrounded by friends and family. His draft number was called soon after, so quickly he joined the Air Force to fulfill his dream of flying. Caddie packed up the new blue Volkswagen bug and headed to flight school in Arizona. Soon after, Carrie Ann arrived. Carrie's well-documented childhood accompanied Ed's rise in his flight school classes. This surprised Cathy, as she never saw him open a book, let alone study. They headed south as the Air Force dictated and continued their lives away from the Midwest and regularly

missing family. Piloting with Jack Massey and then Dick Unser, both he and Cathy found their home away from home with their lifelong friends. As Ed was saving the world from communism, Sarah arrived early in Warner Robbins, Georgia in the heat of summer. Ed was known by his crew as Easy Eddie for giving easy check rides to the Colonels. His crew always knew that he would never ditch the B-52 over the ocean because they all knew swimming wasn't his strength. Cathy was raising the girls, developing new friendships, while also learning the ways of the south. After deciding not to have any more children, Cathy awoke puking one morning and learned their plan had changed. Our second Catherine Jane was born at Offutt Air Force base in Nebraska in 1978.

Awaiting Katie's arrival and closing in on Carrie's March birthday, Ed oversaw planning his first birthday party, when Cathy was admitted into the hospital. He chose what he felt was the best party favor for 7-year-old girls, a plant. Following Carrie's astonishment at this plan, Cathy interjected from the hospital advising to toss the plants and provide plastic toys and candy. Soon later Ed left the military and the Foutch clan moved back to the Midwest to be closer to the family. Cathy went back into the classroom, teaching English as a Second Language and Ed worked selling welding supplies. The 6 years we spent in Davenport were filled with memories surrounded by family:

- Christmas pageants
- Working at the Foutch gas station
- Reading the National Inquirer and searching for candy at Grandma's Foutches house
- Camping trips
- Whitey's Ice Cream visits
-

Sacred Heart School

- Happy Joe's pizza
- Walt Disney World trip

A good opportunity arose and on a whim, Ed applied at Continental Airlines. The family moved to Monument, when he accepted the offer. Soon after subbing, a position for a 6th grade English teacher opened at Lewis Palmer Middle School. We settled in and Cathy and Ed soon began building the house. As any predicament arose, Ed's schedule worked in his favor. By missing events such as: Katie's appendicitis, painting hundreds of gallons of paint in the new house, our dog Maddie getting stuck in the drainage pipe underneath Early Star Drive and many snow storms. Ed would come home to long to-dos, broken cars and National Guard duties, but also provided us the gift of travel on Continental's dime.

Cathy was given an opportunity to retire early to join Ed in Hoboken on the last leg of his career. This New Jersey experiment offered a completely different lifestyle than Monument. While in the early months they lived with only 2 blow-up beds and sidewalk furniture in their 4th floor no-elevator condo, Cathy worked to create a home. Without the responsibility of yardwork and kids, they could travel spontaneously around the globe. Days full of a foodie, hipster lifestyle and many a dirty martini. Visitors came to explore all the city had to offer, with Cathy as their guide. While forcibly pushed into retirement, Dad had many worries about how he'd spend his time. He quickly learned his worries were unwarranted. They moved back to Colorado and eased into their current lifestyle. They remodeled the house, prepared for several backyard weddings, watched Netflix, expanded their reading lists and completed crossword puzzles. They also worked hard to help complete their daughters' to-do

lists. Caddie started back up traveling again with month long adventures to Italy, France, Spain and Portugal. They visited the western United States in their newly acquired RV, "the Dutch oven". In mid-2011 a new phase began in their life as grandparents with the birth of Zachary Edward. More grandkids came later in 2013 with Mia and Jack and the surprise of Ethan. They both now have time to embrace life as grandparents with occasional diaper changes, playing, swimming and trampoline jumping.