



What better way for me to finish out the Member Spotlight 2008-2009 season than to interview a member of the AANC I know a lot about, but you may not. This interview was done with my mother, **Marjorie L. Hackney**, a member of AANC since 2008.

Marjorie was born in Vandling, PA, a little coal-mining town North of Scranton. She moved to Athens, GA with her daughter, Cheryl, who was looking for the perfect retirement city. Marjorie brought a West Highland terrier mix named Silky and a Siamese cat named Sami with her.

Mom graduated from High School in 1945. She had one year of Nurse's training at Columbia-Presbyterian Hospital in NYC. She met my father, a handsome Marine, in Ft. Tryon Park and that was the end of the nursing career. In the early 1950's, Marjorie worked as a "computer" in an office attached to a 16' wind tunnel at NACA (which later became NASA) in Langley Field, VA. She used some of the first IBM equipment, which included a film reader that was used for the pictures of the manometer boards that were attached to the models in the wind tunnel. In 1957, she joined Curtis Wright: first doing key-punching, then computer operation, and then after taking a short course she became a programmer's aide. In 1959, she was hired by Corp. of Economic and Industrial Research (aka CEIR) and became full fledged programmer after completing their training. Later she worked for IBM, Computer Systems Services, and Western Union. Her final position was with TTI (Transaction Technology Inc., subsidiary to Citicorp for developmental programming). She retired from this company in 1986. Her forte while there was finding bugs in the programs and writing the patches for them. She found that more fun than writing the original programs, although she worked in development as well.

Marjorie was divorced and raised three children on her own. Two of these children are living; myself and my brother, Richard. Mom has six great-granddaughters; Britni Cecelia (16), Taylor Nicole (14), Mackenzie Rene (13), Kimberly Marie (6), Mia Isabella (4), and Kendel Tallil (3). All six are currently living in Seoul, S. Korea.

My mother is still very interested in computers and enjoys working on research for our trips and things to do in the local area. She makes wonderful books up with information on local

restaurants and how to get to the places we go to frequently. She's become very adept at computer graphics and the internet in the process. She also enjoys the New York Times crossword puzzles, counted cross stitch projects, opera, all kinds of music, and reading. We also enjoy going to museums and art shows whenever possible.

Marjorie loves to travel and her current health issues have not slowed her down. She's been to most of the Caribbean Islands, but she says the highlight of her travels were our trips to London, Paris, and Cannes. We'll never forget seeing the Tower of London, Big Ben, Parliament, Mont-Saint-Michel, the Louvre, La Orangerie, the Eiffel Tower, the Arc de Triomphe, Notre Dame, the Champs-Élysées, the Place de la Concorde, Jardin des Tuileries, Versailles, Monte Carlo, Monaco, and so much more. She also did a lot of lone RVing when she first retired and has been across the nation at least two times by herself in her motorhome, and through most of the western and northwestern states

Mom is not usually a joiner, but I had tried and liked Newcomers and she decided to try it as well. She hasn't regretted the decision and looks forward to the monthly programs. She also edits my writeups for the website.

When asked to reveal something about herself that she'd like to share with others, she said "I can write better than I can talk."

I asked her for one piece of advice she'd like to pass on to others. She said, "Never stop doing, whatever that may be. If you stop, you might never get started again (as told to me by one of my doctors' assistant)."