

Chapter 27

San Francisco



All three of our daughters lived in San Francisco. They advised us not to buy until we got to know the city a little bit. We moved into a modest rental house at 59 San Jacinto near our daughter Mary. We tried to buy it, but the owner would not sell. It is fairly easy to remember the date that we moved into the house. A month after we moved in we heard on the radio that an airplane had flown into a building in the Twin Towers in lower Manhattan 9/11! We left that rental house a couple years later as Virginia would not sell, was getting

married and wanted to renovate her house with a beautiful view. We will miss the views. You can see the Farallon Islands on a clear day.

It was great to be in San Francisco and have the grandkids visit.



Our daughter Mary was always looking at houses and saw a recently renovated house near West Portal that she thought we would like. We had never really unpacked at San Jacinto.



We did have a great visit there from our Michigan relatives.





We moved into our present house at 119 Madrone Ave. in



2006. This house had been in the owner's family for about 100 years. Before we moved in he spent some \$250,000 renovating and improving the house. He added a totally new foundation and converted the lower floor into a very nice apartment. He put it on the market before he had finished all of the final details. We offered his asking price, but he said it was only for rent at some \$4700 per month which we agreed

to with a fairly long-term lease. Daughter Mary was our chief proponent for signing the long-term rental agreement and we stopped looking for a house. This rental move has lasted some sixteen years.

This is a modest house of some 2000 square feet on a standard city lot. It is about two blocks from the West Portal business district and two blocks from the Muni station.

The house has two bedrooms, two bathrooms and an office on the second floor. The main floor has a delightful living room, dining room, kitchen, bathroom and a small back deck. The lower level has a large recreation room, an office, a third bedroom with its own bathroom and its own exit into the garden. We have now been here sixteen years. We obviously had more space than the two of us needed.

Kerry, Peter and Debi's daughter has been very involved in a youth Shakespeare program in San Jose. It turned out that the daughter of one of the families involved in the program had accepted a position as an EMT in San Francisco and was looking for place to stay until she found her own apartment. We were happy to have Hannah Smith join us for a while. We even had a place in the side yard for her to park her motorcycle. She did indeed find an apartment after a couple months and we again had an empty apartment.

Then another strange coincidence, a friend of my daughter Monica sent out an email asking if anyone had space in San Francisco for a nursing student who had no car and was commuting from somewhere in Marin. We met and liked Mark McLain, the nursing student, and he settled in with us for

almost 4 years. (We had not really thought about how long it takes to get a nursing degree.) He eventually obtained his degree, got a job in Detroit, got married and is now gainfully employed as a nurse. We see him when he is in the city and keep in touch.

By another unexpected coincidence, Eileen Palmer, a friend of ours for some 40 years was looking for a new place to live. We quickly invited her to join us at Madrone Avenue. She is a gourmet vegetarian cook and, by the way, is also currently helping me edit and print this autobiography. She owns another home near Cleveland where her son and his wife are currently living. San Francisco is a little bit warmer than Cleveland and I think Eileen is going to become a Snowbird and share her time between San Francisco and Cleveland.

It is mid 2019 as I am writing this and we have every intention of staying in this rented house, in San Francisco for the foreseeable future. We like it here!

As I mentioned before, Sheila and Monica live in San Francisco. Peter lives just down the road in Los Altos. John lives across the bay in Danville while Mary is in Toronto, Canada. We just (June 2019) got back from a quick flight to visit her.

It is now 2021 and we are still renting this house and enjoying it.

An Update of Academic Accomplishments

We are incredibly proud of the academic accomplishments of our kids. Peter achieved a double major in physics and computer science from California Polytechnic University. Monica completed her undergraduate work at UCLA and went on to obtain a Masters Degree in Finance from Harvard University. Sheila did her undergraduate studies at UC Davis and her masters of Fine Arts at San Francisco State. Mary matriculated at Cal Berkley and obtained a Masters Degree In Operations Research from MIT, and a MA from Stanford in Business Research. John graduated with a degree in Applied Math from the University of California at Berkley.

2019 Status

Peter and Debbi have a son and daughter. Joey just graduated from Cal Poly, as Summa Cum Laude in Bio. Chem. and is working in technology in the south bay. Kerri's involvement in the Youth Shakespearian group has resulted in her becoming an excellent actor.

Monica is single and the CFO of a large nonprofit foundation in San Francisco.

Sheila is married to Pete Tuozzolo and is the Director of Education of the Fine Arts Museum of San Francisco. Ryan, her daughter, is a Junior at Cal Berkeley. Her son, Maxwell has just started college at UC Santa Cruz.

Mary and Jay are living in Toronto where Mary is President of a foundation seeking a cure for PSC. It is a medical research foundation. Her son, Jimi is working for the Jane Goodall's wildlife protection foundation and attending the University of Toronto. Mary and Jay's daughter, Devin is just starting college at Colorado College in Environmental Studies.

John has two children, His daughter, Georgia is a junior in



high school and his son, Logan is a high school freshman. John is in the insurance business.

Anne may some day write her own autobiography about her job as CEO of our family.

To Be Continued By This Crowd