

Shirley Guenzler Wilson

Shirley Wilson grew up in the Cedar Hill area, attended Maple Grove Elementary then Cedar Hill Middle School. After finishing 6th grade her parents decided to rent out their home and moved to the Pacific School District. She started high school at Pacific High School playing on the softball team and joining the choir. Later the family moved back to Cedar Hill came the summer before her junior year started; she was glad to be back with old friends and to finish high school at Northwest.

At Northwest she played softball, sang in A' Cappella choir, and learned a great deal in math and bookkeeping classes. After graduation, she worked at Fenton Bank as a commercial teller with savings and bookkeeping experience. Two years later she married her best friend, John "Dink" Wilson also a 1967 graduate, and since he was in the Navy, she drove her 1962 Ford to San Diego. She then worked at the Navy Exchange as a cashier, cashing military checks and balancing the store cash drawers. After her husband's time was finished serving in the Navy, they moved to Victoria, Texas where she went to work at Victoria Federal Savings & Loan. Years later they moved back to Cedar Hill and went to work for Sieveking Inc. in Fenton, staying 8 years as Data Processing Manager. Wilson then moved to Transcontinental Adjustment Co. for 13 years as Data Processing Manager.

Her career came full circle when she returned home to Northwest; Wilson worked at the high school as secretary for the Junior Class Principal, and then the next year working with the A+ program. Ultimately, she transferred to the Food Service Office, working with the Food Service Director for 20 years. She retired in 2017....well, until she decided to work part time at MCA in High Ridge doing data entry.

Shirley Wilson has a knack for numbers and accounting, but also a love for the Northwest community. She merges these two affections in her 40 years of service to the Northwest Alumni Association. In fact, she was at the first meeting of the Alumni in December 1982. Since then she has never wavered in her commitment, contributing her time and effort to firework stands, dances, craft fairs, golf tournaments and everything in between. Her financial savvy was appreciated and even to this day she still handles accounting aspects of the Northwest Alumni Association. Wilson states that being a part of the Alumni Association has been one of the most enjoyable experiences of her life, particularly watching the organization grow and evolve through the years. Wilson enjoys connecting with alumni at monthly luncheons and even attends with friends from a variety of graduation years.

In Wilson's spare time she enjoys going to the lake fishing for crappie, vacations on the beach, time with family and friends, working in flower beds, and listening to music. She can always be found in the stands cheering on her great nephew and great niece as they are Lions and future Alumni. Shirley Wilson has indeed lived the motto "Once a Lion Always a Lion".