

Lena Amara Coen

Science



My favorite memory of Cass Tech is our senior trip to New York City and Washington, D.C. It was my first trip without being accompanied by my parents and persuaded me that I could spread my wings and head off to places. The travel bug that bit me hasn't diminished.

My interests in the sciences prompted me to attend Highland Park Community College, and after employment with several Michigan companies I settled in at Kerr Manufacturing Company in Romulus, Michigan. The challenges and responsibilities of ensuring compliance with all things regulatory provided me with a satisfying career. Over the years my primary focus has been family, close friends and travel. I believe I'm fortunate that I have had the support of so many loved ones that have sustained me over the rough spots in the past fifty years. Lots of bumps in the road, a first marriage that went awry, and a loving relationship with husband, Paul, that began twenty four years ago, coupled with the warmth and contentment of family.

My daughter, Patricia Lynn Hanet, happily married and busy with her career as a project manager with an engineering firm, lives in our town with her husband Rob, and continues to be the joy of my life. Her husband, an Air Force veteran and a long-time member of the Air National Guard, is about to depart for Europe for some active duty time in support of military efforts in the Middle East. Guess we'd qualify as a military group because my husband retired from the military after doing World War II, Korea and Viet Nam, an ex-POW honored by France with its Legion of Honor. Yes, we do parades and such because we know freedom isn't free.

My wanderlust has taken me to England, France, Germany, Spain, Italy, Ireland, Belgium, Greece and Turkey, along with countless domestic trips. After touching the Berlin Wall, walking the ruins of ancient Corinth and marveling at the fortifications of the Acropolis I'm still ready to pack and head out again. A six week trip to Europe will begin in mid-August. My experiences and travel have taught me that life isn't about looking back, but rather, ahead to new experiences and stimulating people to meet. The world has shrunk so much over the past fifty years, and though the instant communications era can be overwhelming, the joy of new additions to our family, the companionship of loved ones

and friends, and the educational foundation of attending Cass Tech are all part of the support system that keeps me headed in a satisfying direction.



Trip to Ireland 2007



Daughter, Patricia with husband Rob May 2007