

LYN HAGGLUND



I so agree with others that 50 years really passed quickly. After Oak Bay, I went to UVIC to become a teacher and perhaps also to play basketball! Loved playing for the Vikes and we had successful years. I graduated with a BED (Secondary) in History and Physical Education and later got an MA (Administration) from SFU. I moved to Burnaby and began teaching at Queen Elizabeth Senior Secondary in the Surrey School District. Taught for 5 years and then went into Administration: one year VP, thirteen years as Principal of Elementary and Secondary Schools and then to the Board Office as a District Principal and Director of Instruction until I retired in 2005. I thoroughly enjoyed all my roles, the new experiences and learning right up until I retired.

While at UVIC I was selected to go with Operation X-Road Africa and spent 4 months working with other University students from Canada and USA, in Lesotho building a school and water system in this small, poor country enclaved by the Republic of South Africa. We spent time as well in Ghana, Nigeria and the Ivory Coast. As a result of this I was asked to go with Canadian X-Roads International for two months before I started teaching to work with recreation folks to develop programs for kids during their summer vacation. Arrived home Sunday, moved Monday and started teaching Tuesday!!

Other than work over the years I played basketball, curled and skied. I played with the Retreads in the Senior Women's Basketball League in Vancouver. Actually, some of us played together for over 30 years. We competed in the World Masters Games in Toronto (1985 Gold), Denmark (1989 Silver), Australia (1994), Portland (1998 Bronze) and Edmonton (2005 Gold). It was great playing in our own age group and sister Lee played with the team in 1989 in Denmark. It was interesting for me, as we were often playing former national team members of other countries, as I was Manager of our Canadian Women's team in the early 70's. The team spent two summers playing tournaments in Europe which

was the first time the Team had played overseas. Most exciting was in 1972 when we went to China as part of Mitchel Sharpe's External Affairs group (which was right after Canada was the first country to recognize the People's Republic of China in the United Nations). Our Men's and Women's teams were the first non-communist basketball teams to play in China. Mao was still in charge, we visited all the historic sites and for this history person it was simply the best!! The Team also spent time in Brazil.

This involvement at the National level helped me to get a job at the 1976 Olympics as a marshal on the basketball floor. I think I almost saw every game and sat at the end of the USA bench when they won Gold.

We both retired in early 2005 and Lee and I decided to do our spiritual journey together by walking the "Road to Santiago" the pilgrimage route across northern Spain from the Pyrenees to Santiago where allegedly the bones of St. James are buried. We walked 500 miles, with packs on back, in 32 days and 4 rest days. It was a magical journey and so great to do it with Lee. Then my partner and Lee's husband joined us for 3 weeks in Portugal and Madera. In 2007 we walked another 500miles from Le Puy-en-Velay in France over the Pyrenees to where we started the Spain walk in Roncevalles. This completed the 1000 miles of one of the oldest pilgrimage routes. Then, three weeks in the south of France.

The 2010 Olympics were great. Lee and I volunteered for 5 World Cups in Whistler prior to the Games and for the Olympics we were transport co-ordinators for the bus shuttle system for athletes, coaches and media at the Sliding Center. For Paralympics we worked at Alpine. It was a great two and a half months.

Retirement is busy. I am a Director of a Foundation Board, active in our church community, trying to master golf and on the ALS journey with a good friend. We generally go to Sedona each year and spend time at Whistler. I live in Burnaby with one partner and two felines.