

I was one of the original incorporators of Friends of the Dominican Republic back in February 1998 and have served as it's only Treasurer since day one. I have also been on the Board of Fondo Quisqueya since the mid-90s and serve as liaison between the two organizations.

I retired from the federal government in 2004 with 35 years of service, starting with my Peace Corps years in the DR (67-69) and including eight years as a Peace Corps staffer in the 80s. I was the Programming and Training Officer, the de facto Deputy Director, in Honduras from 1982-1987. I then transferred to Washington where I was the Chief of Operations for the Inter America Region for three years, including one year as Acting Regional Director. Peace Corps has been a big part of my life. My wife was also a Volunteer in Honduras in the mid-60s and one of my daughters served in Ghana from 1998-2000. So, we are indeed a Peace Corps family.

After Peace Corps, I got a Masters from Tulane where I met and married my wife in 1970. We came to DC after grad school and I got my first job with the Department of Labor (71-82) in the arena of job training and job development programs. After three years in DC under the cloud of Nixon, I transferred/fled to Boston where we spent almost nine years. In 1982, I moved to Peace Corps and pushed my luck to eight years of the best jobs ever. My tenure coincided almost exactly with that of Loret Miller Ruppe, the legendary Director who put Peace Corps back on the map in the 1980s. I had the distinct pleasure of driving her around Honduras for three days and serving as her translator. In 1991, I started my third career with the Asylum and Refugee programs at the old Immigration and Naturalization Service. INS merged into Homeland Security, Bureau of Citizenship and Immigration Services, in 2003. I had absolutely the best job as director of the only human rights documentation and research library in the federal government, providing the Asylum Officer Corps with information about human rights conditions in countries that are producing refugees. For many years, I traveled every six months to meetings in Europe, also Canada and Australia, with representatives of similar research libraries in western, refugee-receiving countries. I also had the good fortune to travel all over Central America with others from INS and State to attend meetings of the Regional Conference on Migration from 1999 to 2004.

I am now a basically happy retiree and a grandfather of two, a 3 year old boy and an 8 month old girl. My two daughters live nearby, which is great. Both girls followed me into development, one with the World Council of Credit Unions and the other working on food security issues with World Vision.

I will be chairing the 50<sup>th</sup> Reunion Planning Committee and look forward to seeing many of you in Santo Domingo in 2012 when we celebrate 50 years of continuous service by Peace Corps in the DR.

