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“Retirement Life Is Good”

by
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Well, my golf game has gotten better over the last several weeks. I've tried to make a point to get out to the range and chipping green a couple times a week just to keep my diminishing skills from becoming totally non-existent. My schedule has gotten so busy I've not had the time to play the game as often as I once did and also I've not been able to spend as much time in other important areas in my life. There comes a time, I guess, when one just has to say “no” to some things so he may get on with doing those things that he had looked forward to doing after during retirement. Time is passing all too quickly.

We've had some visitors recently and we're getting more family and friends coming in over the next few weeks. We always look forward to showing them around and spending quality time with them when they come. We're so proud of our hometown and are glad when we can show it off. Judy's sister and niece from Texas are coming to town this coming week, followed immediately by my youngest son from Greensboro, NC and his family, including 17 month old Tucker. That should be a lot of fun.

Shortly after that Judy and I, plus three other couples from Winifred, will make our third annual visit to Myrtle Beach, SC to enjoy a week of playing golf, walking the beach and eating till we pop each night. This is a trip we look forward to because we rent a house right on the beach and enjoy the sunrises every morning coming up on the horizon, the challenging golf courses that eat us alive, and fantastic restaurants every evening. We try to make sure we sample something from every food group prior to coming home.

Normally we guys play golf every day and the ladies play a couple times during the week, however, this year the guys will probably play only three or four times and the whole group might get a scramble going one of the days. The rest of the time, if we're not lying on the beach we'll be taking in some of the sights like the USS North Carolina Battleship in Wilmington, NC, just up the road and the historic sites in Charleston, SC, a short trip down the road.

People always ask us why do we travel 8 hours up the coast to go play golf when we've got so many beautiful courses right here in our own back yard... Our answer is always, “Because we want to and because we can.” Seriously, it's because we enjoy being with the people we go with and getting together, all in one house, for a week is a real good time of making the bond between us even stronger. Of course, when we get back we won't speak to each other for a couple of weeks... just kidding. Speaking only for my wife and myself I must say we have become very close to the other three couples and our friendship has grown stronger because of these annual jaunts.

The day we get back from Myrtle two other sons and their families will be pulling into Disney World for a week's stay at the Grand Floridian where we will be going down to spend some time with

them and seeing some of the new attractions that we've not yet experienced. This is another week we are looking forward to with great anticipation.

One would think we would be tired of traveling by this time, but just a few weeks after our visit with our family our 4 couple bridge group will take off for two weeks of fun, frolic and food in romantic Italy. What great opportunities our retirement has afforded us to really enjoy the life with which God has blessed us! As I said earlier, because of these travels and entertaining friends and family from time to time, other local activities that normally take up a lot of our time each week find themselves playing second fiddle, but at our age we must avail ourselves of every opportunity to enrich our lives whenever possible and prioritize our time accordingly.

Each person should be involved in those areas that fulfill his or her greatest desires. Only you can determine what those areas might be in your own life but find out soon and get busy doing what you want... when you want.

Have a great week and a great life!

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