

Meet Betsy O'Dell

My formal name is Elizabeth but my friends call me Betsy. I was born in a small town in northeast Pennsylvania called Nanticoke. I spent most of my life in the Lehigh Valley (Allentown, Bethlehem, Easton) in PA.

I attended Kutztown State Teachers College in PA (it is now called Kutztown University).

Later, I went to Lehigh University to get a Master of Education degree to become a reading specialist and also to get a special education teaching certificate .

The year 1971 was full of changes for me. Allen and I got married in June. We met on a blind date and we will be married 50 years this June. Also, that was the year I got my first teaching job.

I taught in the Easton Area School District for 35 years. I mainly taught kindergarten and third grade, but I also taught first grade, fourth grade and Title 1 Reading.

We have two sons. One is an investigative reporter and the other is a physical therapist. We also have two thoughtful and beautiful daughters-in-law and four wonderful grandchildren.

Allen and I started playing bridge in the early '70s. We played socially with the people in his office. Later, we played duplicate bridge at local clubs. After our boys were born, we stopped playing bridge until the 1990s. Once we returned to bridge, we often planned our vacations around playing bridge at different tournaments around the country.

I am looking forward to playing in-person bridge again. Bridge is a great thinking game and also bridge games at clubs are places to meet many interesting people.

