

Meet Michelle Harlow



I grew up in South Texas where I attended a large public high school and became very involved in speech and debate tournaments. I'm reminded of those days when I attend bridge tournaments. Both are a combination of camaraderie and competition—travel and social time hanging out with your partners/teammates as well as rehashing of the rounds. I must admit I never heard it called a “post mortem” until I began playing

bridge, although I attended the real thing when I was a deputy district attorney.

After graduating from the University of Texas at Austin in 1976, I spent a year as a ski bum in Durango, CO, where I worked as a cocktail waitress and mortgage loan processor. Seeking a real career and better pay, I enrolled in law school at the University of Pennsylvania. After graduation, I moved to Denver and worked as a trial attorney for 20 years.

In Denver, I met my husband with whom I enjoyed travel, outdoor sports, dancing, dining and so on. We spent much of our vacation time in the beautiful red rock desert country near Moab, UT. We married and had two children. Eventually we

moved to Durango, to raise our kids in a small community. I changed careers and taught English as a Second Language in our neighborhood elementary school. In 2010, I lost my husband much too early to pancreatic cancer.

I decided to spend winters in Tucson after some ski injuries. The beautiful environment here speaks to my love of the desert. Why hang around snow country if you no longer enjoy winter sports? While convalescing from surgery in 2017, I contacted Adobe about bridge lessons. I'd always enjoyed gin rummy and other easy card games. I took bridge lessons from Barbara and Dev, and was quickly hooked on bridge. I love the endless complexity and variety which makes for constant learning. More than moving up the ranks of ACBL, I like to take my bridge game on the road. Already, I've played in several countries and many states. This photo was taken on Madeira during a bridge cruise. I can't wait to play REAL duplicate bridge again!