

Meet Sue Erickson Nieland



My husband and I spent the first 38 years of our marriage in Sioux City, Iowa, where he practiced law and I was an antique and fine art appraiser. When our three sons left the nest, I completed an M.A. in Art History specializing in the art of Mexico at the University of St. Thomas. I taught and curated until retirement.

Ten years ago we moved to Okemos, Michigan (an East Lansing suburb) to be closer to our oldest son and his family. Subsequently, our other sons and their families landed in Chicago so our Midwestern roots are deep. Our retirement has been lots of fun: we garden, travel, spend time with family, and are fortunate to enjoy the medical and cultural advantages of two university communities for six months each year.

We've wintered in Tucson for 20 years, drawn here by an old college friend from Northwestern. We were immediately hooked by the Sonoran desert and Tucson's proximity to Mexico. Oddly, we've owned three homes in midtown within a half mile of each other.

I was reluctantly introduced to bridge in the 7th grade when my mother and her bridge playing friends needed a fourth. I've played socially for years but was terrified of duplicate having had a few close encounters of the worst kind before zero tolerance. I found my way to Adobe through my friend Ken Peoples who suggested Barbara Rosenthal's Play and Learn class. It became a weekly priority in Tucson and during the pandemic bridge has become a lifesaver! I do miss the in-person gatherings at Adobe...and the treats!