

Meet Tim Tilton

I grew up on a 210 acre family farm near Canton, Ohio. We grew a little bit of everything – hay, corn, wheat, oats, dairy and beef cattle, hogs, chickens.

We sold Christmas trees, cordwood, strawberries and sweet corn in the summer, and pumpkins in the fall. We charged people a dollar to fish in our pond. Despite all these efforts we were far from affluent.



Back in those olden days, before TV became widespread, farm families like ours entertained themselves with checkers, chess, board games, and cards.

My parents first thought I might amount to something when at age five I started winning a lot of pennies from an elderly aunt playing tong, a game like gin rummy. She complained and my first source of easy money dried up.

When mom and dad entertained, they invited people in to play poker or bridge. I began kibitzing and gradually figured out what was going on.

My dad, a great player, took me in hand, gave me Mollo and Gardiner, and when I was 11, took me to my first duplicate game. We rolled a 70% and I thought I had the game pretty well figured out. Disillusion, and addiction, soon followed.

Professionally, I earned advanced degrees in political science and taught for 37 years at Indiana University in Bloomington. My research focused on welfare states and Swedish social democracy. For ten years I also held elected office in County Government, eight as county commissioner. That was an education of a different sort. :-)

From the mid-90s I considered changing careers to become an outdoor educator and trip leader. That never materialized, but I did get to walk the Colorado Trail, the John Muir trail, the Mont Blanc trail, and lots of southern Utah and the Cascades.

I developed a real love of wildflowers and have pursued them in places as varied as Western Australia and the Arctic National Wildlife Refuge. I've always loved to travel; my most recent foreign adventure involved five weeks on the Silk Road from Xian to Khiva, Uzbekistan.

I am missing my son Andrew, daughter Anna, and my four fabulous grandchildren and looking forward to rejoining my bridge companions at Adobe. Happy holidays to all!