

LINDA HILLIER PROFILE

Hello Linda's. I am Linda Lu Hillier of Urbandale, IA. I was born in Cedar Rapids, Iowa at St. Lukes Hospital to Eitel and Nettie Petrusch in 1946. I grew up on an acreage in Marion, Iowa with two siblings, Ruth Ann and Anita Louise.



Linda and Norm

I went to Marion Rural Independent Grade School, then to Linn Mar High for 2 years, finishing in Marion High my Junior and Senior years where I graduated in 1964. I played trombone in band and was in vocal music.

My first job out of high school was at Hiltbrunner Music in Cedar Rapids, Iowa where I was in sales in the sheet music department. I lived in an apartment in Cedar Rapids, Iowa with a friend since kindergarten. We met our boyfriends while cruising the loop. They were just getting out of the Armory as they were in National Guard. They were leaving the next morning for two weeks summer camp and invited us to go for a bite to eat. One was Norm Hillier and he asked me if he could call me when they returned and I said he could. The rest is history and we married the next year.

Norm had lived in Oskaloosa, IA and worked at Northwestern Bell, so I quit my job and moved there. Our daughters, Tanya and Leesha, were both born there at Mahaska Hospital. Tanya Zuckerman is mother of two girls, Sarah and Jillian. Sarah is engaged and has a lovely little girl, Arianna who will be 5. Jillian is finishing her second year in college.

Leesha Henricksen has 2 sons. Sean who is married to Kris and has a stepson, Ben. Dahlton is married to Brittany and expecting their first in August.

Norm was promoted to Engineering Management at the phone company in Des Moines, IA in 1971, so we packed up and moved. The name of the company changed to US West while he was there.

I was a stay at home mom while the kids were little but found two part time jobs when they started school. We decided to leave Des Moines and build a home in Urbandale, a suburb of Des Moines in 1977 and are still living there.

I started working as a full time secretary at that time starting at Agri Industries, then Vision Clinic and Chamber and Commerce. From there I became a secretary for the Cross Corporation Commercial Real Estate, next was Grubb and Ellis Mid American Pacific Commercial and retired at Terrus Commercial Real Estate when I was 69.

We now have a winter home in Mesa, AZ, so retirement is fine.

This is how I found out about L.I.N.D.A.:

I opened the Des Moines Register and saw a story about two girls who were having the first ever Linda convention in Cedar Rapids. I called my friend Goldsberry and asked her if she would like to go and she did. So I called my parents to let them know we would be staying with them. I believe it was July 25, 1987. We met Goodsell, from Carlisle, there and had a great night going to a club and listening to the band "Linda and the Classics". We bonded along with several other Linda's all these years.



Christmas Family Picture 2025

I have not attended all 38 conventions. I was instrumental in the success of a couple conventions in Des Moines, St Louis and Kansas City with wonderful help from several Lindas. I will be in charge of the 2027 Convention for our 40th Anniversary in Des Moines with several Lindas already volunteering to help.

Hugs to you all!