Jack and Diane Houtman - 2015

Jack and Diane Houtman have been married for 57 years. Jack was born and grew up in Kalamazoo Michigan. He worked for GE in Holland MI and Hendersonville NC in Marketing and Engineering. Jack has been retired since 2007. Now he helps with things at their condo association such as being the Swimming Pool Chairman, the Audio Visual Systems, Lighting and handyman stuff for his son and daughter-in-law. Jack's response to 'are you enjoying retirement' was "You Bet!" He says that the best things about it are that he is free to do things that he enjoys – helping out where he can. And he is thankful for good health as he approaches his 8th decade. Jack's interests include computers, photography, church choir, family events and Corvette Indy. He has been a member of CI for about 4 years. Previously Jack was a member of a Corvette Club in Asheville, NC. How did Jack get involved with Vettes? In around 1998 Jack said to his GM engineer son Alan, 'one day I would like to own a sports car.' Of course Alan's response was that there is only one! Subsequently Jack bought a '99 pewter 6 speed coupe through Alan. The '99 now belongs to Alan and Jack gets to drive it when he is at Alan's cottage in Traverse City MI. Currently, Jack owns a 2009 C6 Crystal Red Metallic Coupe. The '99 is the only other Vette that Jack has owned. Jack says what he likes best about CI is that it is an informal group focused on having fun; that it is well organized with a friendly group of people. Favorite activities of Jack's include Drive n Dines and road trips to NCM and other places. Jack shared a favorite Corvette story that involved his son. When Jack bought the '09 C6 his son said that he would like to have the '99 back. So Jack arranged that with him. Later Alan's wife Holly saw that Alan still had the original paperwork for the '99 and asked about never having given it to his Dad. Alan's response was "No, he would have lost them." So, for 10 years Alan had planned to get back the Vette he had bought for Jack!!