

William & Sharon Arnold - 2014

Sharon Arnold

Sharon Arnold Sharon has been married 24 years. She was born in Wauseon Ohio and grew up on the Northeast side of Indy from the time she was 9 years old. She has lived in the Indy area for 54 years. Sharon is the Executive Director of a Non-Profit called Devington CDC and has recently started a business called Innovative Funding Solutions, LLC. She has had a self-described love affair with Corvettes and Corvette Enthusiasts since she was 16. Her first car was a 67 Corvette. She also loves assisting those in the greatest need which she does through both Devington CDC and her new corporation IFS. Sharon is one of the pioneers of CI who believed that a Corvette Club should be fun, not like going to work with a 'quarrelsome person'. Life got in her way, including caring for both of her parents prior to their passing and an accident in 2005 that shattered her entire left side and she dropped out of CI. BUT, Gregg Ernest, Nancy Holle and Barb Satkamp kept after her and she returned, heard about the 25th Anniversary celebration and realized it was time to have fun again. Sharon says "...I am so proud of what all of you have accomplished while I was away...!!" Sharon was a member of the Indianapolis Corvette Club for 20 years prior to starting CI. Sharon first got interested in Vettes as a teenager. Her father worked with a gentleman who bought a new Vette every year - from their beginning. In 67 he had a green one with dark saddle tan interior and a 4 speed competition clutch. She wanted it and in late 68 bought it for \$3,800. It had 10,000 miles and was her baby - which she named Honey. Problem was that she weighed 117 pounds and had never driven a stick, particularly with a 3000 pound pressure plate. Honey sat in her parents' heated, cooled, carpeted garage under cover for a long time. Finally, Sharon and her parents decided that it was either drive it or sell it. She quickly learned to drive it but also quickly burned out the clutch. Here came Steve Holle, Dick Satkamp and a few other Corvette friends to the rescue. They installed a factory clutch that lasted until Sharon sold Honey in 2007. After Sharon's accident it was feared that she would not be able to use her left arm again and Honey's only power option was her windows. So through tears and interviews (to find a worthy buyer) Honey went to live with a man in

Dayton Ohio who had lost his wife to cancer. She had told him to go find his dream 67 Sting Ray. They still keep in touch. He still calls the car Honey and is now remarried with a little boy. Good memories. Currently, Sharon and William own a 1998 Convertible Vin #...00006; one of the first convertibles made after many years of coupes only. In the past Sharon has owned a 67 Convertible, a 1980 T-top and the current '98. In reply to the question "what do you like best about CI...Sharon replied "It is operating exactly how we envisioned and wanted it to run. Nonpolitical, different functions such as racing enthusiasts, rally's for those that like to rally, car shows for those who enjoy that, and just fun runs and getting together to share stories and enjoy fellowship of kindred spirits." Her favorite CI activities are rallies and fun runs, parades and the fellowship at meetings. She also enjoys some car shows and working at racing events. The story Sharon shared involves when she was a member of Indianapolis Corvette Club. She was told that she needed to race her baby because the club needed the points. She fought that idea until she found out that there was no one else in her class. She entered, got a trophy and club points. Sharon believes that really she won the slowest car on the track award - she was not going to hurt her baby!

William Arnold

William has been married for 24 years (to guess who). He was born in Indianapolis and grew up on the South side. He has lived here all his life except for the time that he was in Terre Haute going to college. I will quote what William replied when asked about his job. "Officially, I'm a BSEE/CS, registered professional engineer. Micro\$oft certified system engineer/architect, member of Mensa, FEMA certified first responder and a certified medico-legal death investigator. (i.e. Coroner ~ Yes, that's odd in there , isn't it?) I liked CSI Las Vegas, had an opportunity, and took it! I only worked part time and did 350 cases or so before I basically retired, but I still carry the badge and can be called in if something bad-enough happens." He maintains small networks of computers for a number of clients as well as

consulting regarding programing and he manages 3 mission-critical websites that he developed for the Indiana, Kentucky and Illinois Wine and Spirit Wholesalers.

State laws forbid the shipment of alcohol to wholesalers delinquent with any wholesaler and his sites process that. Additionally, he is deputy controller for the city of Lawrence and does bookkeeping and engineering stuff for Sharon's businesses. On the subject of being retired, William says that "depending on your viewpoint, I've either been semi-retired all of my life or I'll continue to work as I do until I'm 80." He wonders when 'old enough to know better' kicks in. William expressed that their more recent lives have not involved much fun - just work and rescue stuff. So, that's what brought them back to CI - for some FUN! They have been addicted to their work recently but are looking forward to opportunities to get away with the club to DnDing and trips such as to Brown County. William, like Sharon is a founding member of CI. His story is similar to hers concerning Indianapolis Corvette Club and leaving to form CI. William has long been a sports car enthusiast. His first car was a 67 Mustang GT with a big block. He followed that up with several other sports cars before ultimately buying a new black on black Corvette with Z51 "boy racer" suspension in 1986. Currently he owns a 1998 C5 convertible (VIN #...00006). It is black with a firethorn red interior; a 5 speed and Z51 suspension. In the past he (they) owned the '86 and Honey (see Sharon's story). William feels just as Sharon does that CI today is just the way they wanted and hoped that it would be - a fun club where everyone can follow their Vette interests and everyone gets along. The activities that William enjoys are also like Sharon's, including rallies, fun runs, parades, fun meetings, car shows and working racing events. William shared one Corvette story which I again will quote so that I get it exactly right. It involves how he met his wife. "...she was married when we first met and I was just a never-married boy-racer. We were talking at the after the meeting dinner at the Ground Round in Castleton (which has been since torn down) hitting it off just fine, and then one of the ICC members says (in a loud voice) and 'this is her husband'. I was crushed. However, a few short weeks later, Sharon casually mentioned that her husband was gone. Not knowing exactly how to respond, I said - he died? - and she said - only in my heart. I tried not to look too eager, but I was thinking - heh-heh-heh. We were married about a year later.