

Let's Get to Know Each Other!

Name:	Cindee Weingarden Schwartz
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Family Members (spouse/partner, children, grandchildren, etc.) Please include birth years. (It would be helpful for family tree purposes if you could keep also note the family lineage, e.g, which grandchildren are associated with which parents.)	Spouse: Phil Schwartz
Names of your parents:	Eugene Weingarden Jane Weingarden
Where did you grow up?	I was born in Detroit and spent the first 12 years of my life in Southfield, Michigan. My family then moved to Lighthouse Point, Florida in 1969.
Where have you lived and where do you live now? For how long?	After high school graduation, I moved to Gainesville, Florida to attend the University of Florida. I stayed there for 10 years. I met my husband there in 1979. My husband and I took six months off from our jobs in 1988 and traveled the western United States looking for a place to relocate. After much fun and research, we decided on Colorado Springs, Colorado. We moved there in 1990 and spent 26 years there. Last year we moved back to Florida to Merritt Island.
How did you end up living in your current city/town and what do you like about where you live?	<p>We sold our house in Colorado Springs, hoping to downsize there. The house sold the day before it was listed on MLS and the buyers wanted to close in two weeks. We ended up moving in temporarily with my sister, Cheryl, who also lived in Colorado Springs. After looking unsuccessfully for months and with the rising price of homes in Colorado, we decided to try out Florida near my other sister. We ended up finding a home about a mile from my sister, Tamy. We used to spend a month in the winter in a condo on the beach to get out of the winter, now we spend summers playing in the mountains to get out of the heat!</p> <p>I love the oceans, being close to family, the seven to eight months of gorgeous weather and all the Florida wildlife! (Not so fond of the hurricanes, though.)</p>
Where did you go to school (college, university) and what did you study?	I received my BA in special education from the University of Florida in 1978. I received my MA in deaf education from the University of North Florida in 1984.

Current Occupation:	Retired I volunteer reading stories to elementary students.
Former Occupation(s):	High school special education teacher. I taught across many academic subject areas including sign language. After retiring from teaching public high school, I went to work for the Colorado Department of Education as a consultant in the area of twice-exceptionality (students who are gifted and have a challenge area are considered twice-exceptional). I taught teachers across the state of Colorado in face to face classes and online.
Interests/passions/hobbies: e.g., how do you like to spend your time, what brings you happiness?	I have always loved spending time in nature. I enjoy hiking, birding, identifying wildflowers, traveling, cooking, photography, reading, and playing games. I enjoy working with stained glass and enjoy an occasional art class. I also enjoy teaching sign language classes.
Organizations with which you are involved:	Speak Out Brevard Brevard Dems Council for Exceptional Children Sierra Club Rolling Readers
Three interesting facts about you:	I am fluent in sign language. I have studied alternative health and healthy eating for 45 years. I was in the path of totality for the most recent eclipse in Madras, Oregon.

Please feel free to add additional comments or share anything else you would like us to know about you.