

A trip for two renews faith and relationships

A half mile back through dense trees and a leaf covered path was a small log cabin that was our getaway for a few days.

A tranquil setting that left me reminiscing about our honeymoon in Tennessee 26 years ago. Here we were once again just the two, enjoying nature and each other.

Instead of the high hills of Tennessee, however, with the breath holding roads that you weren't sure if you were going to go off the cliff and plummet to your death, were hills that gave you the allure of mountains, yet kept you safer.

Once inside the cozy cabin for two, we found a simulated fireplace – the only disappointment of the trip – and a fire pit and hot tub adequately secluded for social distancing and privacy.

It was the best get away possible. As we are officially once again empty nesters, it proved to be an incredible opportunity to reconnect with each other and disconnect from the outside world.

The first day we got to Hocking Hills, Ohio, we



A SLICE OF LIFE

Linda Wilk



spent some time doing a little bit of hiking before settling in at our cabin with an evening of grilled salmon followed by a night-time hot tub excursion.

The second day was filled with hiking where the trails were varied and breath taking. They included Ash Cave the largest recess cave east of the Mississippi, Cantwell Cliff one of the most remote areas of Hocking Hills State Park, Cedar Falls, Conkle Hollow Nature Preserve - a two-hour walk, Old Man's Cave and Rock House.

Each one had its unique beauty and reminded me just how amazing nature is and how great God is. For anyone who believes that God does not exist, has only to look at nature and its wonder to realize how wrong they are.

Of course, social distancing was a must with all trails marked as one-way directions with one-way signs and masks required for restrooms.

All gladly followed as we got exercise and re-energized.

I found myself wanting to impose myself in various picturesque postcard scenes, yet realizing a selfie stick was needed to truly capture the scene adequately

There was the cave in Rock House that you could climb in and have your pick of gorgeous multi-colored trees for your background, with etched out sandstone cliffs and mountains contoured as picture frames. The problem was with only having an arms-length camera option, we took up too much of the photo. So, in most cases we opted to just take the scenic photo.

It made me think how someone could make some money inventing and selling a multi-purposed walking/hiking stick that doubled as a selfie stick. There were certainly a share of walking paths and stone crevices that I could have benefited from a walking stick.

A walking stick also would have helped in areas where the path was fairly close to the edge and looking down you realized just how far a fall might take you and what the end result might be. Of course, those paths also came with danger signs and reminders to always stay on the path.

There were many a tempting spot to veer off the path, as many had which was evidenced by



initials of those who had walked the path before us. It was sad to see, the initials etched in the sandstone walls where bright green moss had covered the cliffs and now instead were bare spots where my husband explained the initialed spots would remain bare as moss would no longer grow there, resulting in a breakdown of the echo system.

Thursday was a wash out, literally. We were warned that Hurricane Zeta would bring rain and that it did. It had me wondering

just how the rain would affect the upper and lower water falls at Old Man's Cave or the rock formations and paths in each of the various trails. As the rain pattered on the green tin roof of the cabin, Larry and I spent part of our day watching movies, while also touring some of the local shops.

Then Friday came and a return to civilization and home, taking with me a renewed energy and focus on what is most important in life – God and relationships.

Deaths — continued from Page 1

Fairmount, on Wednesday, October 28 at 11 am.

Delmer "Babe" Rector 1940-2020

Funeral services were held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Upland, on Thursday, October 29 at 11:30 am. Burial followed at Matthews Cemetery.

Steven L. Stoffer 1959-2020

There will be no services held at this time.

Alice E. (Myers) Ricks 1923-2020

Private funeral services were held at Park Cemetery, Fairmoutn, on Sat-

urday, October 31 at 1 pm.

Amenda "Kay" Winningham 1940-2020

Funeral services were held at Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Marion, on Friday, October 30 at 1 pm. Burial followed at Thrailkill Cemetery, Swayzee.

Lawrence A. Pulley 1926-2020

Arrangements have been entrusted to Armes-Hunt Funeral Home, Upland, where a visitation will be held from 4 pm to 7 pm on Wednesday, November 4. The funeral service will be at 11 am, Thursday, November 5 at the funeral home with Pastor Mark Sanders officiating. Burial will take place at Grant Memorial Park, Marion.

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THE NEWS HERALD

P.O. Box 1167, Marion, IN 46952 • 260-563-8326

www.newsherald.org

Don L. Hurd, Publisher

president@hoosiermediagroup.com

Ed Breen, Reporter

Alan Miller, Reporter

Sean Douglas, Sports Editor

sports@newsherald.org

Accounting and Legal Ads - Julie Loehmer, accounting@thepaperofwabash.com

Sales - Arlene Long, along@thepaperofwabash.com

THE NEWS HERALD (USPS 386660) is published weekly by Hometown Media, Inc., an Indiana corporation. Periodical postage paid at Marion, IN, 46952. Postmaster: send address changes to: PO Box 1167, Marion, IN 46952. © 2020, all rights reserved.

Letters to the editor and readers' submissions are encouraged; please email news@newsherald.org. All submissions become the property of Hometown Media, Inc., and are subject to editing and publication at the discretion of the staff.

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Indiana History Answers

1. Cardinal

2. Peony

3. Say's Firefly

4. On the Banks of the Wabash Far Away