



JESSE AND LINDA CRUZ

Jesse and Linda met the summer between 9th and 10th grade on Potrero Hill in the San Francisco housing projects where they both grew up. Linda knew Jesse's sister from school and Jesse knew Linda as a girl he was "eyeballing" every chance he had on the bus after school. They graduated from Galileo High School together. Jesse, also known as Chuma to family and old friends, was saving up for a Model A when he was a teenager. He finally saved the \$600 he needed to purchase the metallic sky blue Model A car he had his eye on, but, when he went to purchase the car it was gone. No Model A for Jesse in his youth.

Jesse and Linda married one year after they graduated from high school at 18 and 19 years of age. On their first anniversary, Jesse received a letter from Uncle Sam to report with one pair of underwear and a toothbrush. He was flown off to Boot Camp at Fort Lewis, Washington; then on to Fort Gordon, GA; Fort Huachuca, AZ; and off to serve one year in Vietnam. Fortunately, Jesse returned home safe and Linda had saved up enough money to purchase their first home in Colma, CA. In 1980, they moved to the charming little town of Clayton, when the population was less than 4,000, where they raised their only daughter and many cats, dogs, and chickens. After the military, Jesse worked for PG&E for 35 years and Linda worked for the U.S. Food & Drug Administration for 38 years including 2 years at the Clayton Post Office. In the 1980's the Cruz family was active with the Escarabajo Dune Buggy Club. Since retirement, Linda has been very active with the Clayton Valley Garden Club (Past President for 2 years and current Program Chair), as well as, other related organizations and the Clayton Historical Society serving as Director on the board and newsletter editor. Jesse works as Golf Marshal at the Delta View Golf Course on Sundays and plays golf 2-3 times per week. They also belong to the Diablo Traveler RV Club and go on several outings each year. Linda and Jesse love to travel around the country in their RV with Honey, the dog, and 2 Ragdoll cats, Blu & Flame. They have traveled cross country to Key West, Florida and as far as Fairbanks and the Homer Spit in Alaska. They have had many adventures during their travels.

Over 4 years ago, Linda's Uncle became ill and decided to sell his Model A. Jesse had another chance to get a Model A car. Although the car ran, it needed lots of work. Jesse has always been mechanically inclined; however, the Model A was a new challenge for Jesse. He has read and learned so much from the club members. Both Linda and Jesse are enjoying learning about the Model A car and all the new friendships with the Diablo A's. This year marks Jesse and Linda's 50th wedding anniversary. Photo below was taken at their daughter's wedding in September at El Capitan State Beach in Santa Barbara.

