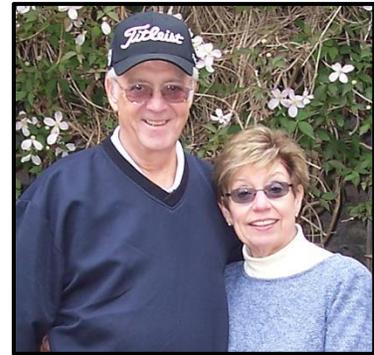




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Major: Psychology  
Freshman Dorm: Gray

Before graduating, I married my first husband, Larry Pope, and was able to graduate a semester early to join Larry in San Antonio, TX, where he had been sent by Uncle Sam. We had two years there and one child, Kevin Lawrence. We returned first to Greensboro and then to Winston-Salem where Laura Elizabeth was born. I spent five years as a single mother until a neighbor, James Overstreet, literally wandered into my life while out taking a walk. He had heard I had broken my ankle and asked if he could do anything for me. Being a pragmatic person, I told him it would be helpful if he would take out the garbage. He's had that chore ever since. We have had 36 very happy years, and between us we have five wonderful children. We are pleased to advise that they are fine, upstanding citizens, gainfully employed, living independently and have provided us with six grandchildren with a great-granddaughter (!) on the way.

I had planned on grad school, but the birth of children and life as a single parent put that on permanent hold. My first real job was in San Antonio at the SA State Mental Hospital in occupational therapy. With the birth of children, I was a stay-at-home mom until Laura was in school. Casting about for employment, I took a part-time job at a local insurance company, Integon, which led to full-time as a life insurance underwriter at Integon. When they were purchased, I accepted a job at Jefferson-Pilot (now Lincoln Financial), necessitating a move back to Greensboro in 1995. I retired from Lincoln as an underwriting director in 2011. While employed, I continued my education by becoming a Fellow in the Life Management institute and a Fellow in the Academy of Life Underwriters. Since retiring, I have taken several Emeritus classes at UNCG and enjoyed every one.

I have long had a love of gardening, and retirement allowed the time to weed, dig, prune and plant. What a treat! I also enjoy reading, bridge (as an aside, my bridge club contains three UNCG students, and two of them were in Gray dorm – different years, of course – and one has the first name Gray!), sewing and travel. Jim and I have traveled to many interesting places, but none can top Scotland where we visited the ruins of a castle on the Isle of Skye where my distant ancestors worked before coming to “the Colonies” in the 1700s. We have traveled to Alaska, the Mediterranean, Canada, the Caribbean and Hawaii.

My favorite UNCG memory is being kicked out of Tuesday Tea. My roommate (who shall remain nameless) and I took a Dr Pepper in with us and were firmly told that proper young ladies took tea at Tuesday Tea and we could remove ourselves. Properly chastised, we did just that. Seriously, I remember a place where studying was emphasized, independent thought was encouraged and women were urged to aim high.