

Lindberg B. “Ed” Miller was born in 1927 in Oakland, CA.

He received his basic education there, graduating from Oakland Technical High. After a move to Southern California he attended Riverside City College (AA Degree) where he was Student Body President and belonged to Gamma Iota Alpha Fraternity. Subsequently he attended USC to obtain a Certificate of Completion from the Chemistry Department in Public Health.

When informed that he needed one credit to get in the engineering school he decided to let his fingers do the walking through his academic catalogue. There he found a major where the pesky credit wasn't needed: criminalist and forensic scientist. The discovery, he said, seemed to combine all his interests in one career. Miller said, “Everything clicked. ”

And when he graduated, with a bachelor of science in criminology from the UC Berkeley, he started working and loved every day on the job since every case was different, and a challenge to his creativity and little grey cells to determine what happened. Ed said, “You couldn't help but be intrigued.”

Ellen and Ed Miller were married in 1949 and produced a family of three daughters. Their current extended family includes three grandchildren and related in-laws. Family Miller have left footprints in Europe, the Caribbean, Australia, China, the Philippines, Alaska, Hawaii and the Lower Forty Eight.

During the span of his career he held assignments as Patrolman Clerk, Captain in Riverside Sheriff Office, Criminalist for Los Angeles Police Department, Forensic Scientist for the Institute of Forensic Sciences as well as private practice. His job descriptions denoted increasing levels of responsibility in the fields of record maintenance, laboratory analysis and assessment, scientific forensic services to enforcement and legal agencies as well as insurance companies.

Despite everyday work problems Ed managed to participate in community/civic activities. He held a variety of volunteer jobs with the Oakland Lions, for 20 years, as president and chair of many committees and clubs at District and Multiple District levels. In Orange County he was involved with the California Department of Public Health Advisory Committee on Alcohol Determination Regulations and for ten years worked as an election inspector and trained voters in using voting machines in English as well as other languages. Ed has been honored and recognized by the American Academy of Forensic Sciences, Association of Official Analytical Chemists and the ASTM. He has testified in civil, criminal and military cases tried in various courts in a number of states. He “officially” retired in 1994, but continued to offer consultant services.

The Millers arrived in Leisure World in August, 1994. Miller, though retired from working on literally thousands of cases with the Berkeley, Riverside and Los Angeles Police Departments, was still on-call as a consultant in tough-to-crack cases where his cool head and deliberate thoroughness spell results.

But even though still “on call” it did not stop him from standing up to volunteer to help Leisure World on the Golden Rain security committee and as a director and officer of the United and Golden Rain Boards. He co-chaired the community-wide planning effort Project 21, which was the reason the Society offered him its singular honor.

Ed was active in a number of clubs as member and executive officer – President of Aerospace Club (5 years); Rod and Gun Club Secretary, Vice President and President. He also was a member of the Audubon, Canine Club, Lions Club and the Historical Society. He served on the United Mutual board and held many committee chair assignments and advisory positions for GRF. Ed was also an active co-chair in establishing and guiding the activities of PROJECT 21. Three major areas of participation provided Ed with personal satisfaction relevant to their importance to the Leisure World community – Co-Chair of Project 21, Chair of GRF Security Committees and GRF Advisor to the Computer Facilities Group.

Ed was active in the Laguna Woods cityhood campaign and the city's planning advisory committee.

In February, 2004, the Historical Society made him their Honoree of the Month.

One of the reasons Miller's expertise was in demand is his common sense and thoroughness, qualities that he brought to community governance throughout his decade here.

"I want to help, address the needs of residents and enhance our lives here in Leisure World. I really love this place."