

40 Years and 44 States Later

A VALENTINE'S DAY SPECIAL FEATURE



Terry and Mary Anne Zimmerlee celebrated their 40-year anniversary in 2021. The Beaver Dam couple met at a singles club in 1980 and that's where their romance began. "Terry's smile is the first thing that I noticed," Mary Anne said. "On our first date, Terry made dinner and then we went to a disco afterwards. I still remember how delicious his French onion soup was!"

Even with full careers – Mary Anne, an elementary teacher and Terry, a design engineer for a heating and ventilation company – the couple managed to be world travelers. They have visited 44 U.S. states, Mexico, Canada and Europe. They also ventured onto the water and enjoyed river cruises in Alaska and Europe. The couple has four adult children and six grandchildren.

In 2015 Terry was diagnosed with mild cognitive impairment (MCI) and shortly after, dementia. The couple still stays very active and enjoys walking and participating in social engagement opportunities. They attend a Memory Café in Fond du Lac, which is a social gathering for those living with MCI and their caregivers; Memories in the Making, where attendees have an opportunity to express themselves through art; and SPARK, which is a cultural program to engage individuals in community cultural experiences. "I want to keep Terry engaged," Mary Anne said. "We are very active and we try to take advantage of resources that are available."

Mary Anne has participated in Alzheimer's Association caregiving classes and book clubs over the years and they participated in the Walk to End Alzheimer's® Fond du Lac County with their two granddaughters and previously walked with Dementia Concerns Coalition of Dodge County with family and friends.

Happy Valentine's Day to this special couple who make the most of every day!



Terry & Mary Anne Zimmerlee
Beaver Dam, WI