

# From the Family Room

**Creekwood Church of Christ  
Mobile, AL**

13 January, 2019

*Congratulations Pat and Ernie - 59<sup>th</sup> Anniversary*



We express our sincere congratulations to Pat and Ernie Smith on their 59<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary today! Pat and Ernie have been serving as faithful members of this congregation for approximately 46 years. Ernie served as an elder for many years. They started their amazing journey together in life when they met on December 8, 1959 at a church get together. Ernie was actually looking for a girl to introduce to a friend – but he decided to keep Pat for himself! Pat said she was attracted to Ernie because he was a member of the church – and good looking! “He looked like the man I would like to date.” Ernie said he was first attracted by Pat’s blonde hair. 36 days later on January 13, 1960, they were married in St. Mary’s, Georgia. Pat was 21 and Ernie was 25. They said their trip to get married was a long one in their 1959 Plymouth Fury. Pat was sick for the entire trip.

Their life together has been blessed in many ways. They have two children. Marcella lives in Tallahassee and Valary is here in Mobile. They have been blessed with two granddaughters, Hannah Belton and Bethany Arnold. They also have four great grandchildren – Joey, Jacob, Carter, and Ava. All of their grandchildren and great grandchildren live in Tallahassee.

Ernie was an air traffic controller and they moved several times before coming to Mobile. Pat said one of the funniest things that happened was when they were selling their house in Jacksonville, FL. The realtors needed to show their house in a short amount of time and the kitchen and den were a mess. Pat had read where Heloise suggested when in a bind, put the dirty dishes in the dishwasher and in the oven. People do not usually look in the oven. When the realtor and buyers got to the house, everything was neat and orderly and the dishwasher was running. But while looking around the house, the buyers looked in the oven! They said “I see you read Heloise too!” They bought the house.

Pat and Ernie have endured some tough trials in life. These include losing their parents. Probably the hardest has occurred in the last few years while undergoing rehab and being apart for a period of time. The lesson they learned that helped them through their hard times was that they were never alone in their trials. They had their faith and they had each other. Learning to get along with each other was a source of strength that helped them endure their trials of life.

The Lord’s church has also been a great source of strength. They said the first thing they did when they moved to a new city was to find a church of Christ. They said “We found that all we attended were warm and helpful with whatever we needed.”

Pat and Ernie, your marriage has been a source of strength for those who have known you. Your example of love for one another and your steadfast love for the Lord and His church have encouraged many. Your lives have most definitely glorified God. Ernie, you set a high standard for us guys by continuing to open the car door for Pat every time you arrived at and left church! Pat and Ernie, we love you.

**RICKY**