

CLYC July 2025 Deckhands of the Month!

Harold & Beverly Willard

A 65-year love story still cruising strong!

Early Years:

Beverly was born in California and later moved to Manitou Springs, Colorado. As the oldest of three, she helped her mom raise her younger siblings—work that gave her both grit and grace. She graduated in a class of just 54 students and, during her senior year, met Harold—a young man from nearby Colorado Springs—at the Fireman’s Ball. That chance meeting became a lifelong love story.

Starting Out Together:

Early on, they briefly lived with Harold’s parents—Harold and his brother even shared a room so Beverly could move in. Beverly’s independence soon took her back to Southern California to be near her dad. He’d promised her a 1958 Impala; when it didn’t run, she rode the bus from Long Beach to Santa Ana College—undeterred. Harold followed her west, finding work at the Orange County Register, which was connected to the company where his father worked back in Colorado. The couple married in Colorado Springs on December 23, 1960.

Building a Life:

Harold, who grew up on in a small farming community in Illinois before moving to Colorado at 15, built a printing career—first at the Orange County Register, later at the LA Times in Costa Mesa. He eventually took a leap and started a marking devices and rubber-stamp business, which grew into a company with 35 employees working 2 shifts, in a 10,000 sq. ft. building.

Beverly—tall, elegant, and full of energy—pursued runway modeling, even teaching runway modeling techniques. She earned first-place honors several times with the World Modeling Association in both Nevada & New York. Together, they launched the marking devices company in Santa Ana. Their daughter was born in Orange, and the family later moved to Diamond Bar as their business thrived.

A New Chapter:

At 49 Harold retired and, led the family to Carson City, Nevada, where they lived for 23 years. Beverly later served as the Republican National Committeewoman for

Nevada during the J.W Bush administration. Their daughter helped run the company with sharp instincts and a winning sense of humor. Selling the business gave Beverly and Harold something they'd long dreamed of—time to travel. They've since visited 67 countries, including 29 days at the 1980 Olympic Games in the then-Soviet Union; the tranquil gardens of Cuernavaca, Mexico; and unforgettable safaris across South Africa.

Love of the Water:

Closer to home, they spent years boating on the Colorado River near Blythe and Parker, where their love of the water deepened. A conversation on the river eventually led them to Canyon Lake. After selling their Nevada compound, they settled on Spray Drive, quickly becoming part of the heartbeat of our community.

Today:

After nearly 65 years of marriage, Beverly and Harold are still the couple who kiss and say “I love you” dozens of times a day—and who will always be each other's favorite dance partner. They treasure time with their daughter and especially cherish every minute with their two granddaughters.

At CLYC, they're often the first to raise their hands. You'll find them serving food and refreshments during the fast-paced Parade of Lights, pitching in at the Commodore's Ball, offering thoughtful ideas to make every event better, and welcoming new members with warmth. They're the steady, behind-the-scenes presence that keeps our club running smoothly.

Please join us in celebrating Beverly and Harold Willard—for their love, laughter, and the inspiring example they set for all of us at the club and in life.

Fair winds, Beverly and Harold—and thank you for everything you do for CLYC.

Sailor Six Questions & Answers:

1. How long have you lived in Canyon Lake? **10 Years**
2. How long have you been a member of the CL Yacht Club? **7 Years**
3. If you were stranded on an island, where would you want to be? **Greek Island Mykonos**
4. What YC event do you look forward to the most? **Parade of Lights (Snack Bar Duty)**
5. Favorite water activity? **Sunset Cruise**
6. Does your boat have a name? If not, what would you call it? **Rascal #2**