



## **New Beginnings Marriage Ministry**

**Living Joyfully and United as One**

"For this reason a man will leave his father and mother and be united to his wife, and the two will become one flesh. So they are no longer two, but one." Matthew 19:5-6a

### **Interview with Linda about her Marriage to Bill Married June 15, 1963 Amarillo, TX**

**New Beginnings: How did you first meet?**

We met at Texas Tech University in 1960.

**New Beginnings: What did you first like about him?**

I liked Bill immediately because he was personable and outgoing.

**New Beginnings: What do you love about him today?**

I continue to admire those qualities, but I also recognize other valuable traits like his high energy, persistence, endurance and honesty.

**New Beginnings: What strength do you bring to the marriage?**

The trait that I bring to the marriage is patience.

**New Beginnings: Was there ever a time in your marriage when you considered giving up?**

In the 1970s and 1980s, women's liberation was a prominent social issue. Many friends and acquaintances of mine were declaring their independence from their families; possessing traditional values was viewed negatively. It was during this time that I considered a separation. Thankfully, my family background and traditional values defined the road I took, which was the correct one for me. Dissolving my marriage did not "feel right" for me. Bill never considered a separation.



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### **New Beginnings: What role does God play in your marriage?**

We both attended Sunday school and church as children. Bill is a student of the Bible. He reads the Bible almost every day. Our family has always attended Sunday school and church. God is and has always been a part of our lives.

### **New Beginnings: What Scripture verse best describes your marriage?**

The Bible verse that I call up on occasion is "Be still and know that I am God." That helps me keep everyday matters in focus.

### **New Beginnings: What tips do you have for other couples striving for a lasting and loving marriage?**

Offering advice to others regarding relationships is difficult. Every human being has different needs. The period in which a person lives has great influence upon lifestyle choices. Removing negative societal influences can be challenging, but necessary. Trust is, most likely, the most important element in a lasting relationship. Empathy is also important. Taking time to try to understand the day-to-day pressures and needs of a spouse can defuse problems. However, the bottom line in a marriage is love. This is not just the chemistry of love but a genuine interest in the well being of one's mate.