

JOHN AND MARGE EGGERS



John and Marge Eggers spent 20 years working at Adventist academies—but the heart of their academy work was at MBA. They first met as students on the campus of Andrews University Academy. John's first "move" on Marge was made while following her after an event at the beginning of the school year. He told her, "If you wait up for me, I will walk with you," and they have been walking together ever since.

Their journey together began in Berrien Springs, MI, where John worked construction building homes while Marge finished college and then taught two years in the public school system. Construction consumed John, and he thought taking seven years to complete two years of college was a slow process, so he wasn't anxious to take another seven years to get that degree.

Their journey continued with a move to Southern Missionary College (Southern Adventist University) in Collegedale, TN, where Marge taught at Collegedale Academy. This move marked the beginning of their service to Adventist education, continuing on to Monterey Bay Academy, Forest Lake Academy, Far Eastern Academy in Singapore, and back to Monterey Bay Academy. Marge taught typing, office practice, bookkeeping, business English, and shorthand during her years of academy work. She worked as a registrar and guidance counselor as well. No matter where what school they were at, there were opportunities for John to use his construction skills.

The most rewarding challenge John faced while in academy work was building the church at MBA. As challenging as it was, there were countless blessings as well. Major contributions were made by staff members including Bob Baerg, Jay Bietz, Mark Johnson, and Jim Genn. Under the watchful eye and careful instruction of John, students provided much of the labor. Fred Speyer, MBA's pastor at the time, remembers, "I stopped by the church site one day as the student workers were getting their instructions for the day's assignment. John prayed with the students before they began their work. In that prayer, he asked God to give the young men spiritual gifts to construct this sanctuary for the Lord just as He had given craftsmanship gifts to the Hebrews in the wilderness to build their Tent of Meeting Sanctuary."

The last 29 years of John and Marge's journey together took them to Paradise, CA, where they developed subdivisions and built more than 150 homes. Last December they moved back to Collegedale, TN, to live out their dream of building their retirement home. They are also enjoying reuniting with friends and former students from all over the world. John and Marge have two children, John II and Janelle, four grandchildren, and are awaiting the new title they will soon be given—Great Grammie and Grandpa Great.

MBA is proud to recognize John and Marge Eggers for their many years of service to Adventist education, and more specifically for the contributions they made to this campus.