

DONNA KESTNER
(315) 598-9696
donnawkestner@aol.com

IN 1974 , SHORTLY AFTER GRADUATING FROM HIGH SCHOOL , I ENLISTED IN THE US ARMY. I WAS INSPIRED BY MY DAD WHO WAS A US ARMY VETERAN HAVING SERVED IN WWII . HE RECEIVED MANY MEDALS, ONE BEING A PURPLE HEART.

I WANTED TO BE A DENTAL ASSISTANT SINCE MIDDLE SCHOOL AND WAS THRILLED TO BE ABLE TO DO THIS IN THE ARMY.

I HAD EXCELLENT DUTY, HAVING BEEN HANDPICKED TO SERVE IN THE DENTAL CLINIC AT THE PENTAGON IN WASHINGTON DC.

AFTER MY TOUR I RETURNED TO MY HOMETOWN OF FULTON, NEW YORK AND SHORTLY AFTER RETURNED TO DC AND WORKED AS A CIVILIAN DENTAL ASSISTANT.

I MARRIED MY HUSBAND DR. ALLAN KESTNER HAVING SERVED WITH HIM WHILE AT THE PENTAGON. HE WAS A CAREER USAF AND US ARMY DENTIST.
OUR TWO DAUGHTERS RACHEL AND AMBER WERE BORN IN GERMANY AND THEN HE RETIRED AT THE END OF OUR NEXT TOUR AT WEST POINT, WHERE HE SERVED AS THE DENTAL COMMANDER AT KELLER ARMY HOSPITAL.

WE RETURNED TO FULTON WHERE WE OPENED A DENTAL PRACTICE FOR ABOUT TWELVE YEARS UNTIL HIS DEATH IN 1999.

THE FOLLOWING YEAR I STARTED WORKING FOR OSWEGO COUNTY IN THE VETERANS OFFICE, I WORKED MY WAY UP AND SERVED FOR ABOUT 19 YEARS AS DIRECTOR.

I LOVED WORKING WITH OUR VETERANS AND FELT LIKE I HAD KNOWLEDGE AS A VETERAN AND AS A MILITARY SPOUSE, THAT SERVED ME WELL.

I ENJOY BEING AN OFFICER IN BOTH THE AMERICAN LEGION AND THE FULTON VETERANS COUNCIL. WE HAVE A WONDERFUL COMMUNITY OF VETERANS AND SUPPORTERS AND IT IS A PLEASURE TO SHARE OUR CEREMONIES WITH THEM.

I ENJOY SERVING AND BEING PART OF OUR LOCAL COMMUNITY WITH OUR SUNRISE ROTARY CLUB. I LOVE READING, GARDENING AND TRAVELING TO SEE MY DAUGHTERS' FAMILIES, RACHEL & DAVE RUBIN IN CALIFORNIA AND AMBER AND DAVE MOORE IN MASSACHUSETTES ALONG WITH MY WONDERFUL GRANDSONS CARSON ALLAN MOORE WHO IS THREE AND LEO WEST MOORE WHO IS NINE MONTHS OLD.

I HAVE ENJOYED WORKING WITH ASSEMBLYMAN WILL BARCLAY AND BRITTNEY JERRED , WHO CONTINUOUSLY SUPPORT OUR VETERANS. AND I AM HONORED THAT THEY RECCOMENDED ME TO SERVE ON THE WOMEN VETERANS ADVISORY COMMITTEE.