

## Judy Perry travels the world working for Merrill Lynch

By: AMANDA DOTSON

Judy Perry was born in 1941 at the old Riverview Hospital in Raymond to Peter and Gerty Perry. Her mother passed away twelve years ago, but her father still lives in the same house that Judy grew up in on Seeley Street.

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Judy says that many of her teachers greatly impacted her future goals and successes. "Inez Simpkins had enormous influence upon the direction I chose---to major in foreign languages," she said. "She also helped get me a scholarship to PLU. Mrs. Melberg and her composition and structure classes helped me teach foreign languages to students who did not understand how their native English language was formed."

Perry also participated in many school and community activities. She was co-editor of the school paper and a member of the honor society and other clubs. She also participated in cheerleading and sold poppies for the American Legion. These activities helped Judy see the value of volunteering. "I still participate in my community in Honolulu by serving on the boards of symphony, the Hawaii Theatre, the Economic Development board and more."

During the summers, while she was in high school, Perry worked as a cashier at the Raymond swimming pool. "I'm thrilled to see it back in operation," she said.

Judy attended and received a Bachelor of Science degree from Pacific Lutheran University. She later went on to receive a Master of Science degree from State University of New York in Albany, NY. Her education and experience has allowed Perry to work in many various positions and travel around the world.

"I've taught school, worked at the Purdy Treatment Center, was coordinator of volunteers at Steilacoom and have spent 26 years in the financial services area," Judy said. During those 26 years, Perry has held many positions with Merrill Lynch company. She is currently the managing director of Advisory Division of Merrill Lynch Private Client Group at the Pacific Islands complex in Honolulu, Hawaii. Before that, she was the resident vice president for the Wisconsin and Illinois complexes from 1993-1999, the Chicago sales manager from 1989-1992, the resident manager in Lancaster, Pennsylvania from 1986-1989 and a financial consultant from 1976-1986.

Judy's work has allowed her to travel around the world. She's been to Japan, Mexico, England, Italy, Holland, Denmark, Poland, Austria and France. And while she's lived in Pennsylvania, New York, Chicago, Milwaukee and now in Honolulu, she says that she visits Raymond several times a year and it feels like she's coming home.

Judy has been able to keep up with the Willapa Harbor area even on her travels. "My father has given me the *Raymond Willapa Harbor Herald* for years, so I can stay in touch," she said.

Judy enjoys the piano, bicycling, salmon fishing, traveling and reading. She also loves painting, drawing and calligraphy. "My free time is spent drawing and painting and I'm an active member of the Hawaii Watercolor Society," she said. "This summer I will complete the drawing program at the Art Institute of Chicago. I believe learning is a forever enriching experience."

Perry has two sons who live in the Philadelphia area. She also has one granddaughter, Katie.

Judy's successes in life have provided her with quite a bit of advice for this year's high school graduates. "My advice would be to take risks, stretch yourself, experience as much of the world as you can," she said. "And read away," she added. "The more you learn about cultures and people, the more you learn about yourself. And when blessed with a happy life, give back to your community. Leave the world a better place."



Judy Perry