



**Shining Stars for October 2017
Dicksie and Earl Schmitt**

Dicksie and Earl said, " We were attracted to Uplands Village by the friendliness, the sense of community, the opportunities for community service and lifelong learning, and the Eden Alternative way of caring for Elders". They moved here in January of 2016 from Cookeville TN, where they had lived 5 ½ years after retirement.

The Schmitts retired in 2010. Earl had been a professor of optometry for 43 years, 15 years at Southern College of Optometry in Memphis and 28 years at Northeastern State University in Oklahoma. He had also served on the Board of Directors of the National Board of Examiners in Optometry for 10 of those years. Dicksie retired from 27 years of teaching violin and viola students and playing in symphony orchestras. Prior to that she had been an elementary teacher for 10 years.

Their hobbies and interests are many and varied. Earl had enjoyed woodworking for many years. He had also been active in community theater and in vocal ensembles, including the Cookeville Mastersingers. Dicksie enjoys weaving and playing in musical groups. They both share a love of history and are avid readers in addition to enjoying videos from the Great Courses.

Earl was a very active member of Kiwanis when they lived in Oklahoma. Dicksie is an active 52-year member of P.E.O., an organization that raises money for women to further their education. In Oklahoma they played in a Celtic band for 10 years; that involved playing for more contra dances than they can count, and participating in historical re-enactments for the Oklahoma Historical Society, as well as playing for weddings and medieval banquets. At Uplands Dicksie is on the scholarship team for the Wharton Association. Before busy schedules and

health issues intervened, they thoroughly enjoyed working on the Trash and Treasure sale.

Their son, Greg, lives in Cookeville. Daughter Carol and son-in-law Scott live in Harriman. Daughter Barbara and son-in-law Russ live in Munster, Indiana, as do their two amazing, incredible, beautiful and talented granddaughters, Isabel (19) and Clara (15).

Dicksie and Earl say, "The best part of living at Uplands is all the things that attracted us to come to Uplands have happened; plus, that and more, like the loving attitude of caring for one another on the part of both residents and staff".