

Beatrice “Bea” Hancock
1980 8th Terrace, SE
Winter Haven, FL 33880
Cell: 407-421-9043
E-mail: beahancock@hotmail.com

Bea Hancock grew up in Winter Haven, Florida, graduating from Winter Haven High School in 1980. Ms. Hancock graduated from Polk Community College in Winter Haven and then attended and graduated from Florida State University with a Bachelor of Arts in English Literature, 1984, and Master of Arts in Humanities, 1986.

Ms. Hancock has worked as a bi-lingual Flight Attendant with Delta Air Lines for 39 years, primarily to Germany. Now as a Tampa based Flight Attendant, she works flights to Amsterdam as well as domestic flights with a flexible schedule.

As a life-long resident of Central Florida, she has been involved in the arts as a performer, volunteer and patron. She was a violinist for over 5 years with the Winter Haven Youth Symphony.

Up until eight years ago, she held the office of 3rd VP – Education for Opera Orlando, formerly Florida Opera Theatre. In this capacity, Ms. Hancock oversaw the after-school Youth Program, working closely with the Youth Director, Robin Jensen. Duties included applying for grants, collecting tuition, budgeting, granting scholarships, coordinating concerts, rehearsals, - generally anything that needed to be done!

She also volunteered for a number of years at Florida Hospital, Orlando. As a cancer survivor herself, helping cancer patients with their chemo treatments and providing an example of a positive outcome of treatment.

As an alumnus of St. Joseph Catholic School, Ms. Hancock was proud to serve on the school’s board for over 10 years. During that time, she initiated an Alumni group, gathering information related to the history of the school, alumni and past teachers.

Ms. Hancock has been an avid genealogist for many years after attending a family reunion with her grandparents in Wiregrass, Georgia. She has been able to do research in several states and countries, taking advantage of the travel benefits of her job as well as growing up bi-lingual. Through a fellow Flight Attendant and a chance mention of Sylvester, GA, Ms. Hancock became involved in a 30-year-old tradition of the James and Jestern Hancock Family Reunion, serving in a number of elected positions. She has found the genealogy library in Bartow a great resource in ongoing research.

Having moved back to Winter Haven 9 years ago, to be closer to family and spend more time with her ailing father (now deceased), she enjoyed serving as a board member for the Historic Ritz Theatre for 4 years and appreciates life in Imperial Polk County and all it has to offer.