

Timeout

Longtime residents, Shoemakers bid city adieu

Two of El Paso's leading citizens are moving. **Ret. Lt. Gen. Raymond L. Shoemaker**, and his wife, **Judy**, are leaving for The Fairfax, a retirement home in Virginia, on July 13.

They have mixed feelings about the move. They love El Paso and have been active in the community.

"We have children in the Washington, D.C. area," Shoemaker said. "And we need to be in a place that has a health-care center."

Their daughter, **Sandy Long**, lives in nearby Reston, and son **Christopher**, an Army colonel stationed in Germany, is due to return to Washington for Pentagon duty soon. "This will be the first time we have lived in the same area as our adult children," Shoemaker said. Their other children are **Raymond Jr.**, director of the Indiana Historical Society and, daugh-

ter **Brooke Atkinson**, of St. Louis, Mo. Both sons attended West Point. Shoemaker was commander of Ft. Bliss from 1971-73, then transferred to Colorado Springs where he served as commander of the Army Air Defense Command and vice-commander of North American Air Defense Command. They returned to El Paso to retire in 1975.

Shoemaker served as senior vice-president of First City National Bank for 10 years. He was the founder of Crime Stoppers, and served as chairman of the American Red Cross, Salvation Army Advisory Board, Armed Services YMCA, and as president of the El Paso Rotary Club and El Paso Symphony Orchestra Association, El Paso Heart Association and Visiting Nurses Capital Campaign. He has held nearly every office at St. Clements Episcopal Church.



Virginia Turner

El Paso People

Shoemaker was born in Washington, D.C. He and Judy met when they were students at Western High School there. Both are from military families. He went to West Point after graduation, and she attended Goucher College and Peabody Conservatory of Music in Baltimore. They were married in Ft. Sill, Okla.

She is the founding-director of the 12-year-old English Speaking Center at St. Clements. It's for adults who don't speak English. From 100 to 200 are enrolled each session.

She also served on the volunteer board, the board of the United Way and the Literacy Coalition group. She was involved in the Homeless Coalition and helped in the Girl Scout capital drive.

"There's no such thing as a perfect city," Shoemaker said. "But we want to thank El Paso for the way we were taken in when we came here to settle down. The political situation is sometimes frustrating, but we love the atmosphere and plan to visit from time to time."

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When **Dr. Willard Schuessler** was invited to speak at the Texas Plastic Surgeons meeting in San Antonio in May, his wife, **Louise**, and friends **Dr. Marion Becker** and her husband, **Jim Radcliffe**, went along too.

"We decided to pull a trick on him," Mrs. Schuessler said. "We sat

in back and when he finished, all three of us planned to applaud and yell 'more, more.'

"Well, the audience beat us to it. They gave him a standing ovation, and we didn't get to do our trick.

"The program chairman asked Willard for the slides he used so they could be put in the National Archives of Plastic Surgeons at Harvard University."

Schuessler spoke on "Plastic Surgery in the 1940s."

When Schuessler, now retired, began his practice in El Paso, he was the only plastic surgeon between Dallas and Los Angeles and Denver and Mexico City.

Virginia Turner's column runs Thursdays on the Timeout Page and Wednesdays in the People section. She is a former city editor at the Herald-Post.

BIOGRAPHY

R. L. SHOEMAKER

Lt. General R. L. Shoemaker, U. S. Army (Ret.) is the former Commanding General of Fort Bliss and Vice President of First City National Bank of El Paso. A 1940 graduate of West Point, he served in five campaigns in World War II in the European Theatre as a Field Artillery Battalion Commander. He was twice wounded in Action. In 1946 he was assigned to the U. S. Military Academy at West Point. Following his graduation from the Command and General Staff College in 1950 he served in combat in Korea. In 1953, he joined the faculty of the Command and General Staff College and in 1958 graduated from the National War College.

Following various assignments in the United States, Korea, and Germany, he assumed command of Ft. Bliss in 1971. In 1973 he became Commanding General, Army Air Defense Command in Colorado Springs, Colorado, from which assignment he retired from the Army in 1974.

He holds an M. A. Degree in International Affairs from George Washington University and an M. A. Degree in Communications and Journalism from Stanford University. During his service, General Shoemaker was decorated 15 times by four nations. *Currently Administrator, Pro Cathedral Episcopal Church of St Clement.*

El Paso Civic Activities:

CURRENT

Vestryman, Warden, Lay reader, Bible School teacher, St. Clement's Church.

Member School Board, St. Clement's Parish School.

Chairman, Board of Managers, Endowment Fund, Diocese of Rio Grande.

Vice Chairman, El Paso Police Advisory Commission.

Board Yucca Council, Boy Scouts

Board, Senior Opportunities and Services.

Board, Hospice of El Paso

PAST

Chairman/President: Mayor's Special Commission on Crime; March of Dimes; Heart Fund; Armed Services YMCA; Rotary Club of El Paso; Free Enterprise Committee, Chamber of Commerce; Crime Stoppers of El Paso; Civil Service Committee, El Paso Charter Commission; Red Cross; Symphony Association; Salvation Army; Church of St. Clement (Senior Warden); Budget Review Committee of United Way.

Board Member: Community College Temporary Home Committee; El Paso Heritage Foundation; El Paso Amphitheater Committee; Goals for El Paso; Community Advisory Board, KCOS; Texas Crime Stoppers Advisory Council; Disabled American Veterans; Accreditation Committee, Chamber of Commerce; Diocese of the Rio Grande (National Convention Delegate); Criminal Justice Advisory Committee; Justice Watch Committee; Rotary Youth Leadership Award; Junior Achievement; Civilian Honors: El Paso Conquistador Award; DAR Medal of Honor; Paul Harris Fellowship, Rotary International; Man of the Year, Military Order of the World Wars; Valley Forge Freedom Foundation Honor Certificate; Chamber of Commerce Award of Merit; Headliner of the Year, El Paso Press Club; Centennial Leader, Senior Opportunities and Services.