



**Dick Krajczar**

June of 1961 was the end of high school and the beginning of a stellar career for Dick Krajczar. Dick, who was raised in Freemansburg, was an outstanding athlete at Liberty and had a strong desire to play college football and baseball, so, with a total sum of \$65.00 in his pocket, he headed west to attend Northwest College in Powell, Wyoming, where he played ball and graduated with an Associate of Arts Degree (1964).

Dick, being both ambitious and adventurous, spent six years (1964-1970) “doing his thing”. He worked as a roughneck on oil and uranium rigs in Wyoming, fished on salmon boats in Alaska, opened a side-walk cafe in Grand Lake, Colorado, managed a bar in Winter Park, Colorado, ski bummed in Aspen, Colorado, worked with a crew building a right-away fence between Big Piney and Pinedale, Wyoming, and lived on a ranch in Meeteetse, (population 327) Wyoming, cooking meals for a crew who were painting and renovating the buildings. He joined the Army National Guard (Wyoming) and served from 1966 to 1972, rising in rank to E5 (Sergeant).

The year 1969 was extraordinary for Dick; he received his B.S. degree in American History from the University of Wyoming and married his now wife, Sherry (née Fritz). Sherry, a native of Sheridan, Wyoming, received her B.A. degree from the University of Wyoming in 1967 and her M.A. degree from the University of Maine in 1995. A qualified teacher, Sherry taught psychology, sociology and keyboarding (typing) at the American Community School in Jordan and the International School in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia. Sherry and Dick have two children; a son Josh, born in 1972 and a daughter Morgan, born in 1975. Josh graduated from the University of Wyoming in 2004 with a degree in English literature and now teaches 5<sup>th</sup> grade at the American International School in Riyadh, Saudi Arabia. Morgan received her B.F.A. in 1998 from the University of Wyoming and her M.A in 2005 from the University of Phoenix. She teaches at the Overseas Children School in Colombo, Sri Lanka, and is the mother of Troy and Areya.



In 1970 Dick was hired by McCormick Junior High School in Cheyenne, Wyoming, as a 9th grade civics teacher. He also taught physical education and served as wrestling coach, golf coach, assistant football coach, and ski club adviser. In his “spare time” Dick was the assistant wrestling coach at Cheyenne Central High School. Although Dick was not unhappy with his job, he did have a yen for new experiences and seeing new places. He learned that Cheyenne had a sister school in Kabul, Afghanistan, and the school had a teaching position available. He applied for the job and was hired as a teacher and principal at the American International School of Kabul.

Pursuing a career in education requires credentials beyond the undergraduate level and Dick understood this; he had to get a graduate degree. Dick returned to the United States and received his M. A. in Educational Administration from the University of Wyoming (1977). He was also re-hired by McCormick Jr. High as a teacher and wrestling coach.

After receiving his graduate degree, Dick wanted to be at the helm of a school, but was not sure where until he received a call from the State Department's Regional Educational Officer who asked him to come to Washington and interview with the U.S. Ambassador to Syria. In 1977 and at age 33, Dick became Director of the Damascus Community School in Damascus, Syria.

Dick had a diverse career in the field of education and received many employment offers for his achievements. He was recruited for the position of superintendent and principal of the American Community School in Amman, Jordan, a job he held for 10 years (1979-1989). In 1985 Dick was granted a sabbatical to study for his Ed.D (Doctorate of Education) at the University of Florida and received his degree in 1992. In 1989, he was named Headmaster of the International School of Kuala Lumpur, Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia, a position he held until 1996. In August of 1996 he accepted the position of Executive Director of the East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS), an organization to which American and international schools in 16 countries belong. In 2005, he became Executive Director of the Association for the Advancement of International Education (AAIE). In 2007 Dick returned to his job as Executive Director of the East Asia Regional Council of Schools (EARCOS) in the Philippines, a job he currently holds.

Over the years Dick has experienced important milestones in his life. An accomplished educator, he capitalized on opportunities, made a positive impact on students and colleagues, witnessed the advance of education in foreign countries, and helped others grow. Liberty High School and his classmates ( especially Jim Delgrosso ) helped to form his dreams, his work ethic, and his vision.