

## **Teresa (McCarthy) Ward**



See my art on my website:

<http://origart-tlw.com/>

### **Name, address and e-mail:**

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### **Family names & ages:**

Husband Michael. He is an Englishman I met when I was working in London as a maid in the summer of '71. We were married in 1978. Since then we've spent a year in C.R. ('82); a year in Florida ('98/'99); and the rest of the time here in London. No kids.

My father, Robert, passed away in 1993. Lung Cancer. He was 70, which was way, way too young to lose him. My mother, Gloria, is still going strong despite the fact that she is completely deaf and doesn't see all that well either. She is an ardent traveller & has travelled all over the world - most recently to Australia on her own - to see me.

### **What's happening in our family?**

I took voluntary redundancy in 2006 after 30 years in IT. Michael is a contractor and, when he is not working, we travel. We've registered our flat on a home swap website just after I finished work (Oh, I could tell you stories) and we have done home swaps, so far, on the east coast, in Antigua and Australia.

### **Highlights:**

- Hitchhiking around Europe in 1972
- Working in India (as an IT Consultant) for 3 months in 1992
- Putting a flat roof on the top of our house (we have the top 2 floors of a 4 story-terraced house in North London) in 2003. I now have a thriving garden up there with views of - well, if you are tall & have fairly good eyesight - St. Paul's, Canary Wharf & the London Eye.
- Getting British citizenship in 2005 so I am now a proud citizen of TWO countries.
- Having a watercolour accepted & hung in the Mall Galleries (just down from Buckingham Palace) in 2006. I've been trying to get another one hung there ever since, but they're being fussy.

## **Career status:**

Retired... unless the painting career takes off.

## **How I spend my time:**

Travelling, painting, yoga, gardening, cycling.

## **Comments for classmates:**

If you ever come to London, look me up. I know interesting places that the tourists never go to.

## **Lessons learned since 1969:**

I'm not really an American at heart. I thrive over here.

