

DID YOU KNOW...

by
Betty Shutler

A native of Waterbury, Connecticut, Rick Brown moved to Brooksville in 2003. He is the proud owner of a '61 British Racing Green MGA 1600, a '73 Harvest Gold Mini 1000 and a '03 silver and black Mini cooper. His first new car was a Triumph Spitfire which he bought new direct from the factory under the Diplomatic Corps special purchase program. It was delivered in Paris for a mere \$1,800. The car was shipped on Ottawa Canada on his reassignment from Paris and was sold when the gas tank had the nerve to rust out about 2 years later.

You may wonder how Rick had the opportunity to be in Paris. Well...he was formerly employed by the Foreign Service for the U.S. Department of State as a Foreign Service Staff Officer in Communications. His assignments took him to Paris, France for 2 years, Ottawa, Canada for 6 years, Dakar, Senegal, West Africa for 2 years and Guatemala City, Guatemala for 6 months.

Rick served in the U.S. Navy for 7 years as a Communications Technician in Germany and Istanbul. He also served on board the USS Franklin D. Roosevelt in the Mediterranean Sea and on board the USS Oxford off of Vietnam.

While in the Foreign Service, Rick was a part of the Paris Vietnam Peace talks under Henry Kissinger, Averell Harriman and Cyrus Vance.

Rick was Manager of Credit Administration for American Express Bank Ltd. in New York City for 27 years and retired in 2003. His office at American Express Bank was located on the 8th floor of the 7 World Trade Center. Rick was in his office on 9/11 and witnessed the horror of that fateful day.