



## Fred Shirley

Fred Shirley is a District Advisor with First Command Financial Planning following a twenty-two-year career with the Air Force. He met Rumiko in Okinawa, and they have been married since 1985. They have two children. Their son, Joshua is a Vice President with First Command Bank, and the father of Fred and Rumiko's three grandchildren – Abigail, Matthew and Noah. Their daughter Katrisha is a litigation attorney in Dallas. Fred says, "When I look at my family, I know I married the right woman."

Fred and Rumiko reside in Hereford, Arizona. They love hiking the canyons of Arizona, and since Fred is a classic car buff, they enjoy taking his 1970 Chevelle Super Sport to classic car rallies. They also enjoy gardening together.

When Fred was growing up, vocational and trade schools were everywhere. Many of the young men he went to school with opted for learning a trade rather than going to college because of the lower cost and shorter investment of time before they could start earning a decent living.

Gradually many of those trade school opportunities vanished as the common thinking was that without a college education chances of doing well were believed to be very poor.

When Fred became aware that Cochise College was making a concerted effort to bring vocational education into the college, he was intrigued by the opportunity that would bring to many. As a relatively new Rotarian, Fred learned about The Rotary Vocational Fund of Arizona and the grants available through TRVFA that can provide vocational education support for people who really need it and have a demonstrated desire to create a better life for themselves and their families. Fred joined the TRVFA Board in April of 2020 so he could help expand this opportunity in Southern Arizona.