



2025 Volunteer Honoree - Marlou & Norm Faustini

Norm Faustini:

I was born in Cleveland, Ohio on January 16, 1934. I was one of Evelyn and John Faustini's 9 children growing up during WWII. I graduated from East Tech High School in 1952. My first wife was Sandy. We married in Cleveland, but soon moved to sunny California where we had 2 children – Mike and Marina. Mike is a retired pharmacist and he and his wife, Susie have 3 boys who are married. They are: Darren and Emily, Dave and Ceanne, and Greg and Frances. Greg and Frances have also blessed us with a great grandson, Vincent. Marina recently retired as Nurse Recruiter for San Antonio Hospital. She and her husband, George (deceased) had 2 boys – Jordan and Jared who is married to Julie and they have blessed us with a great granddaughter, Collins.

On June 6, 1981, I married Marlou and shortly after we moved to La Verne. I became the stepfather to Marda and David. Marda is now a Registered Nurse married to Joe Gonzales and they have 5 children (Taylor, Gabby, Abby, Lou and Alex.) David is a Staff Sergeant in the US Army and he has 2 children (Taylor and DJ).

In 1952 I joined the Navy and I attended boot camp in Great Lakes, Illinois. Shortly after boot camp I served on the USS William T Powell, a destroyer. It was during my first ocean voyage in a horrific storm that I decided being on a ship and seasick wasn't for me. As soon as I could, I cross-rated to the Navy Seabees. I stayed with the "Bees" for over 35 years achieving the rank of Command Master Chief. During this period of time, I trained at Davisville, Rhode Island and Port Hueneme, CA. I trained with the Marines and Green Berets for Vietnam at Camp Swampy, Gulfport, Mississippi, Camp Pendleton, CA, Twenty-nine Palms, CA, China Lake, Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii, and Kauai, Hawaii. I was also sent on special construction assignments to Cuba; San Juan, Puerto Rico; Adak, Alaska; and Panama. I was awarded numerous medals including the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal with a gold star. Our unit was also called to active duty again to assist the Marines during Desert Storm and I retired shortly after that.

My first full-time job was with Ohio Bell Phone Company. I was assigned to the Installation Department. This often required pole climbing late at night and during snow storms. When I had enough cold weather I decided to transfer to Pacific Bell in Los Angeles, California and moved my family to Covina. Shortly after transferring to Pacific Bell, I was promoted to supervisor and then sub-district manager. I retired in 1987.

Not long after I moved to Covina, the Covina Chamber of Commerce advertised that they were looking for volunteers to help with their annual Christmas Parade. I decided to volunteer. I ended up volunteering with that group for over 25 years which included serving over 5 years as Parade Chairman.

After Marlou and I retired from the phone company, we decided in 1995 to join the Retired Senior Volunteer group for the La Verne Police Department. A few of my favorite assignments were acting as bailiff for the Hearing Judge for people contesting parking citation and playing the Grim Reaper for many years in the "Every 15 Minutes" program. In 2003 I was appointed to the position of Coordinator for the RSVPs. I have continued in this capacity until I decided to step down in July of 2024. I continue to volunteer with the PD mainly patrolling the city and helping out with PD and Community Special Events. My total hours as a LVPD Volunteer are 11,135 hours.

You can see that I enjoy volunteering because in June of 2011, I applied and was appointed as a La Verne Planning Commissioner. As Commissioners we get involved in many conditional use permits - residential and business and pass on our recommendations to the City Council. I was a Planning Commissioner for 8 years.

August 3, 1981 – Navy/Marine Corp Achievement Medal for meritorious action – awarded by Secretary of the Navy

January 15, 1985 -- – Navy/Marine Corp Achievement Medal for meritorious action – awarded by Secretary of the Navy (second Time -with gold star)

2003 –Marlou and I received the Jack Huntington Pride of La Verne Award

2013 -- I was recognized at the County of Los Angeles' Older Americans Recognition Day as La Verne's recipient.

2019 – I was recognized by the City Council for service on the Planning Commission.

2022 – Marlou and I were honored by the RSVPs at their annual Christmas luncheon for our service and dedication to the RSVP Program, Police Department, and the City of La Verne.

2024 - I was given a Certificate of Appreciation at a La Verne City Council Meeting for serving the RSVP organization for 21 years as RSVP Coordinator.

I'm still an active member of the RSVP program. When we have some free time Marlou and I enjoy spending time with our friends, our kids, our 12 grandkids, and our great grand kids. We also enjoy spending time with other family members and often travel with them. Once and a while you might also find us at Laughlin, NV or at the Valley View Casino near Temecula.

Marlou Faustini:

I was born on February 27, 1950 in Los Angeles, CA to Margaret and Louis Stockbauer. My parents, my brother, Brian and I lived in a wonderful neighborhood in Downey and I graduated from Warren High School in 1968.

The summer after graduation, I had the opportunity to attend the Summer University of Innsbruck in Austria for 6 weeks as a counselor for my High School German Teacher's class. I met individuals from all over the US. Our trip home was a ship that went from La Havre, France to New York. I was so impressed when I saw the Statue of Liberty. That next fall I attended Cal-State Fullerton majoring in German and minoring in mathematics with intentions of becoming a teacher. I joined the Alpha Delta Pi Sorority and was also a little sister for the Delta Sigma Phi Fraternity.

I met my first husband, Dave Taylor at Cal-State Fullerton. Dave and I had two children: Marda and David. Marda is now a Registered Nurse married to Joe Gonzales and they have 5 children (Taylor, Gabby, Abby, Lou and Alex.) David is a Staff Sergeant in the US Army and he has 2 children (Taylor and DJ).

On June 6, 1981, I married the man of my dreams – Norm Faustini. We moved to the beautiful city of La Verne in December of 1981. When I married Norm I also became a step-mother to his two amazing children—Mike and Marina. Mike is a retired pharmacist and he and his wife, Susie have 3 boys who are married. They are: Darren and Emily, Dave and Ceanne, and Greg and Frances. Greg and Frances have also blessed us with a great grandson, Vincent. Marina recently retired as Nurse Recruiter for San Antonio Hospital. She and her husband, George (deceased) had 2 boys – Jordan and Jared who is married to Julie and they have blessed us with a great granddaughter, Collins.

I started my career as a part-time telephone operator for Pacific Bell and in 1970 I became a full-time operator and worked my way up the ladder of success to become a second level manager. I worked in a variety of assignments mostly in the repair and human resources departments. It was at Pacific Bell where I met Norm Faustini. I retired from Ma Bell in 1991.

After Norm and I retired we decided we wanted to get to know our community better. We joined the RSVP group in May of 1995 and have enjoyed every minute of our volunteer time since. As part of the RSVP group, I assisted Chuck Ochoa with setting up the original Every15 Minutes Program and helped work the program every year. Norm and I developed the idea of handing out "glow necklaces" while on patrol on Halloween evening. We felt that these necklaces would help drivers see "Trick-or-Treaters" and help keep La Verne's kids safe. Our group now hands out hundreds of necklaces every Halloween.

I also participated for several years as a "catcher" with the Baker to Vegas Relay Race. I drove officers to their starting location, "caught" the runner finishing their leg of the race, and then returned them to our Hospitality Suite. I have volunteered for most of the community and PD events over the years. I was the RSVP Secretarial Coordinator for over 20 years and decided to step down from that position in July of 2024. I have continued helping the PD mainly with Livescan and fingerprinting and assisting with PD and Community Special Events. My total hours as a LVPD volunteer are 15,125 hours.

Mayor Don Kendrick also appointed me to a committee with employees from the Pomona Valley Hospital. I assisted with planning the Opening Ceremony event for PVMC's Urgent Care/Physical Therapy office in La Verne. It is a wonderful add to our community.

2003 - Norm and I were awarded with the Jack Huntington, Pride of La Verne Award.

2016 - I was recognized at the County of Los Angeles' Older Americans Recognition Day as La Verne's recipient.

2022 – Norm and I were honored by the RSVPs at their annual Christmas luncheon for our service and dedication to the RSVP Program, Police Department, and the City of La Verne.

2024 – I was awarded the Volunteer of the Year for the Aging Next Program.

2024 - I was given a Certificate of Appreciation at a La Verne City Council Meeting for serving the RSVP organization for 22 years as Secretarial Coordinator.

I'm still an active member of the RSVP program. Over the years, not only have I learned a lot about our police department & our city, but I've also made many lifelong friends. When I have some free time, I enjoy spending it with our friends, our kids and our 12 grandkids and 2 great grandkids. Once and a while you might also find me traveling or at a casino trying to defy the odds and win some money.