

Barbara Jue

Profile: Barbara Jue

Age: 65 in June, 2013

Education: MBA—U.C Berkeley;
MA—San Francisco State;
BA—Cornell University

Occupation: Peace Corps Volunteer
—Moldova; Clorox Company,
Director, Global Compensation;
McKesson Pharma; AMD
(Advanced Micro Devices) and others

Family: Daughter, Amanda;
son, Nathaniel

Residences: San Francisco



Retired business woman Barbara Jue joins the Peace Corps

Editor's Note: *Barbara Jue's former husband was the late Silas Jue. Silas and I served together in the Peace Corps in Madras, India from 1966-68. Barbara always wanted to live in a foreign country where she could learn the culture and language as a member of the local community. Silas' adventures and stories of India in part motivated her to pursue joining the Peace Corps. More importantly, she wanted to use her 30 years of business experience to assist developing businesses. This year, her dream comes true at age 65. She departs for training in Moldova in June.*

Why Did You Join the Peace Corps?

I'll be 65 when I'm deployed in June. I had always wanted to live abroad as a local and take part in the local community and culture rather than just dropping in as a tourist for a few days. I also believed that I had valuable experience from my lengthy career in human resources that would be of benefit to a developing business enterprise. I started researching the Peace Corps about two years before I retired.

After I retired, it was the golden opportunity to make that dream come true while I am still fit and in good

health. The Peace Corps is an iconic institution and has only grown in prestige over its 50 years of existence and I'd be proud to be a part of its mission.

What Influence Did Silas Have In Your Decision?

Silas' stories of India were interesting, of course, and the bonds he made with other volunteers were compelling. In fact, every Peace Corps volunteer I've met has indicated that the experience was life changing. That and the opportunity to share learnings with non-Americans is the experience I'm after.

What Do Your Friends and Family Think?

Everyone is very supportive of my upcoming service. They seem to admire my sense of adventure. My children weren't too surprised when I mentioned I was applying. They know that I routinely like to make changes in my life, to try new things and take risks. I'm a continuous learner.



Barbara Jue with son Nathaniel

What Will You Be Doing In the Peace Corps?

I'll be in a business advisory role for an agribusiness and rural business development program in Moldova, located between Romania and Ukraine. It's an assignment that will really leverage my business knowledge and experience. I won't know my specific project until I finish my training program in-country starting in June.

Is the Peace Corps Recruiting Older Adults?

That definitely is the case. Approximately 7 percent of the 8,000+ Peace Corps volunteers today are age 50 and older. Host countries love getting retirees because of their vast knowledge and experience.

People think that I'm retired... and officially that's true...but I don't consider myself "retired." I'm still working. The Peace Corps is a job and an important one. I'll think about retiring when I turn 80.

How Hard Is It to Join the Peace Corps?

For those 50+, it can take about 1 to 1 ½ years to be accepted for training. One thing they kept stressing is that you have to be patient. Peace Corps does a rigorous background check on everything about you including an extensive assessment of your medical history. You don't have to be in perfect health but they want to make sure there is a good healthcare provider in the host country to handle your medical needs.

Are You Paid?

You don't join the Peace Corps for the money. Your rewards are "giving back" and sharing your experience with others less fortunate than you. Peace Corps pays a monthly living and housing allowance. Plus you get free healthcare, dental and insurance coverage. At the end of your 27 months, you receive a "readjustment" allowance of \$7,425.00 (pre-tax).

To view detailed list of the benefits of Peace Corps service, visit <http://www.peacecorps.gov/learn/whyvol/>.

ABOUT THE PEACE CORPS

Average age of Peace Corps volunteers is 28. Seven percent of Peace Corps volunteers currently serving overseas are over the age of 50. The oldest currently in service is 83. Peace Corps service is a great way for members of the baby boomer generation to continue their careers in a non-traditional environment. Volunteers age 50 and above bring unique life skills and professional experiences with them that allow them to make an instant impact in communities around the world.

Launched in 2007, Peace Corps' 50+ recruitment initiative aims to increase the number of volunteers over 50. The initiative, however, is not primarily focused on numbers or even about a particular demographic. It is directed at expanding the age and experience diversity of Peace Corps volunteers and the range of services that this older group offers. In 2011, Peace Corps and AARP announced a partnership that allows the two organizations to work together by connecting older people with more volunteer opportunities.

To learn more about the Peace Corps, go to www.peacecorps.org.

Moldova

Country



Capital: Chişinău

Official languages: Moldovan

Government: Parliamentary Republic

President: Nicolae Timofti

Legislature: Parliament

Area Total: 33,846 km²

Population (2012 estimate): 3,559,500

Currency: Moldovan leu (MDL)

National Anthem: Limba No

Ethnic groups (2004):

69.6% Moldovans

11.2% Ukrainians

9.4% Russians

3.8% Gagauz

2.0% Bulgarians

1.9% Romanians

1.5% others / unspecified
(includes Transnistria)