

Meet the Member

Dale & Lori Swanson

How does someone accumulate three million frequent flyer miles? By flying all over the world and visiting manufacturing facilities in 57 countries! This was Dale Swanson's life with Parker Hannifin for 36 years until his early retirement in January of 2022.



After graduating from a Christian high school in Denver, CO Dale attended a Bible college in Greenville, SC where he met his future wife, Lori. They both transferred after a year and Dale went on to pursue his degree in Business Information Systems at the University of Southern Maine and eventually completed online at University of Phoenix. Later, when living in the Cleveland area, he completed a Masters in Business - Operational Excellence from the Fisher School of Business - The Ohio State University.

Lori grew up in a suburb of Detroit, MI. Her life changed forever when she enrolled in Bible College and met Dale. They were married soon after at the age of 20 and moved to Portland, ME where Dale started his business career with Parker Hannifin. Two children and 14 years later the company moved them to Modesto, CA where Lori received her college degree and Masters of Arts in Global Leadership from Fuller Theological Seminary.

Both Dale and Lori were raised in legalistic churches. Dale began his faith journey while watching the "Little Drummer Boy" as a five-year-old child. Lori responded to the Gospel at the age of seven and prayed with her father. However, it wasn't until later in their marriage that they fully understood the grace and love of God. It was after a crisis in their marriage of 12 years that they turned to the Lord for their strength to heal their broken relationship. Their move to Modesto in 1998, gave them the fresh start that they needed and they have never looked back. It has been their spiritual fuel to help minister to countless other couples struggling in their marriages. While in California they became active in Marriage 911 from the International Center for Reconciling God's Way where they led an international marriage ministry team in holistic crisis management. Dale and Lori both served on the board and Dale eventually voted president of the board for two terms. As the Director of Community Education for the local crisis pregnancy center in Modesto, Lori led an abstinence-mentoring program with a team of medical professionals and spoke before 15,000 students per year.

In 1998, Dale's company moved them to the headquarters in Cleveland, OH. They were able to sit under the teaching of Alistair Begg at the Parkside Church and led their Marriage Matters ministry team. God gave Lori the opportunity to serve as the Executive Director and Board Chairperson for the local crisis pregnancy center as well as many opportunities to serve outside the US with Life International as an International Training Specialist. Lori continues to serve the Pro-life movement in different capacities with over 25 years of experience.

While in Cleveland, OH their grown, married children (who stayed in California) started to have children of their own so they started transitioning to the West Coast in a town called Livermore, CA outside of San Francisco where they thought they would retire. But what is unique about the Swanson family is they all decided to leave the San Francisco area and relocate to Charlotte.

Their daughter, Nichole, is married and lives with her husband, Chad, and their three children in Wesley-Chapel, NC. Their son, Seth, and his wife Sharolitt have five children and live in Rock Hill, SC. Both

Nichole and Seth graduated from the Master's University in Santa Clara, CA. The Chancellor of both the university and seminary school is John MacArthur, a prominent evangelical theologian.

Lori's hobbies are reading, entertaining folks in their home in the Bramble community and walking their Chocolate lab named Charly Girl. Dale is still trying to figure out what it means to be retired and not have to fly all over the world. He enjoys volunteering for JAARS in Waxhaw and spending time with their eight grandchildren.

They enjoy the worship services at Eternal and the creation of an "authentic community of practice".

Dale's favorite passage is Proverbs 3:5-6. *"Trust in the LORD with all your heart and lean not on your own understanding; in all your ways submit to him, and he will make your paths straight."*

Lori's favorite is 1 Corinthians 10:31 *"Whether therefore you eat or drink or whatever you do, do all to the glory of God."*

As you become more involved in Eternal you will no doubt be introduced to Dale and Lori Swanson. They are energetic and passionate about their faith and are available to any couple seeking advice and counsel for their marriage or join them in educating and advocacy for Life.

Written by Paul Veerman