

## Member Story

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One of my earliest memories, of a spiritual nature, was as a child of about eight and I asked my Mom, "When I die, will the world continue on without me?" The first astonishing psychic experience or attunement with spiritual vibrations that I recall was at the age of fifteen. The phone rang, and I correctly shouted out to my Mom, with that first ring, exactly who was calling, and the exact message. It was a death in the family. As a teen, I became interested in philosophy, religion, and mysticism and would spend hours in the local library reading books on these subjects.

For years, I experienced an inner yearning for a "something," yet didn't know of what. I knew there had to be more to life than the day-to-day experiences people lived. Ten years into my marriage, one day, my husband pointed out to me a Rosicrucian "Mastery of Life" advertisement, and asked me to send for the information, which I did. I felt an inward "excitement" just seeing the name "Rosicrucian," and felt inwardly that this organization was going to be very important to me. I knew of no one who was a Rosicrucian.

Ironically, although it was my husband who initially started me on the Rosicrucian Path, he proved not to be interested after becoming a member himself for a brief time, and he actually became very antagonistic about me remaining a member. Whereas I felt I had "come home," for him, it appeared to be his worse personal nightmare! During my first home initiation, I had the immense realization that *I was not my body*. Despite my efforts to share all the beauty and higher knowledge with him, he remained firmly disinterested. I realized much later how Karmic our relationship was.

A few years into my membership, I recall one day having a "melt-down," whereas all I could think about, and all I wanted from the bottom of my heart was to "Know God." And, throughout the years I have been blessed with many beautiful ecstatic realizations. Of course there are going to be the Dark Nights of the Soul, and of which I have had a few. I realize that my life has been one of intense spiritual "research and development" and the Rosicrucian Path of structured learning and experiences has been the one that I resonated with.

Throughout my membership, there has been an unshakable inner peace despite whatever was going on in my objective life. I realize that as long as one is living on this

plane, there must be constant refining and corrections to keep in balance, for there is always the tendency to veer too far to the material or too far to the spiritual. I have had glimpses of cosmic consciousness throughout the years, and now, in my later years, can finally enjoy living more often than not, in deep peace, love, and Oneness as a more abiding and daily harmonious experience.