

Anne Victoria Adler

Studious, scholarly, introspective, and first born heir, Anne Victoria Adler, came into the world with a hyperactive conscience. Anne, the daughter of John P. and Rosamond Victoria (Bille) Adler, was born on June 1, 1917 and attended both public and parochial schools in Marshfield, graduating from McKinley High School in 1935.

Anne continued her education by attending Milwaukee Downer College for two years and then on to the University of Wisconsin - Madison, where she received her Bachelor of Arts degree in Psychology. Anne wanted to be an architect, like her Grandfather Bille, but was unable to do so because young women couldn't take drafting. She then attended the University of North Carolina, receiving a Master of Arts degree in Economics, her second interest, which was due to one of her teachers, Professor "Wild Bill" Kickhefer. Anne was one of two women in the Economics program that received her degree.



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In 1946-1950, Anne taught on the staff at the University of Toledo, Ohio, where she established a course in personal finance besides teaching economic theory. Many of her students were returning G.I.'s.

Anne then tried to get a job as a stock broker and was told that women didn't understand that area of things. Merrill, Lynch, Pierce, Fenner and Smith did hire Anne as their first and only woman account executive during the early 1950's. She also became one of the first women to pass the New York Stock Exchange exam to qualify as a registered representative. In earlier days, the state licensed representatives only.

After working for several other brokerage firms such as Paine, Webber, Jackson, and Curks and Smith, Barney, Harris and Upham, Anne retired early, so she could spend her winters in Florida and more time with her Aunt Awa (Alma Bille.) She calls herself an "adult drop out" since she chose an early retirement from the formal market setting. She continues an avid interest in various aspects of investments.

One of those interests is the Marshfield Area Community Foundation. Anne initiated the idea of establishing the foundation and has worked, with her sister, Bette, to help it become a reality. Anne and Bette studied many vehicles for a memorial to their family. In 1993, they offered a challenge grant of \$25,000. This provided the motivating force from which the Marshfield Area Community Foundation emerged. Within its first year, the Adler gift was matched, and the charitable trust was ready to endow the future of the Marshfield area.

Anne currently lives in Milwaukee, but frequently returns to Marshfield, to visit her sister, Bette, and her many friends as well as to deal with business matters for the family and the foundation.

Submitted for Anne Adler

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