

## ***One-Liners . . . That Changed My Life!***

### **# 39 “*You need to go to Bear Trap Ranch.*”**

After I surrendered at age 44, in 1969, and agreed to follow Jesus, I was unsure what to do next. I turned to our pastor for direction. After a few sessions, he said, “***You need to go to Bear Trap Ranch.***” So Ellie and I, with some of our children, arranged to attend a week-long session at the IntersVarsity Conference Center near Colorado Springs.

After a day or two, the President of IntersVarsity, who was also a layman, sensing how green and new I was, asked me pointedly, “How did you get here, anyway?” I think it was obvious to both of us, it was of God. For the next several days we heard speakers, interacted with other searchers and grew in the Lord.

This experience was the beginning of a lifelong participation in a para-church world I never knew existed. Like many others of my generation, I had a narrow understanding of “church”. Now I began to see it as the whole body of Christ. And the form often changes to meet the needs of various times, places and cultures.

Meeting in conferences, small groups, and one-on-one; evangelizing, teaching and nurturing; organizations such as IntersVarsity, World Impact, Basic Youth Conflicts, Navigators, Yokefellows, The fellowship, Laity Lodge, Christian Legal Society, and on and on, augment the work of local churches. And participating with them has fed me and helped fill my ravenous hunger for God’s word and real fellowship for over forty years.

How grateful I am to the Lord, my Pastor, and Bear Trap Ranch and its faithful people for opening the door to this new world!

*From Grandpa With Love*

#### **A Note From the Writer**

Moving into my nineties caused me to reminisce. It was eye-opening to realize how much I had been changed by one-liners. I decided some of these might give others a new insight or a chuckle, so—enjoy! You can reproduce this material, provided the copies are complete, including this copyright note, and circulated free of charge. © 2017 Marvin J. Martin