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The End of an Era

In March 1978, Don and Sue Murray began planning for an engagement enrichment weekend they were to host at Andrews University in May of that year. A one-time event, they decided to tell about their marriage experiences—what worked and what didn't—with help from other local married couples. The Murrays, Gordon and Becky Reoch, Ed and Bev Harris, and Skip and Danielle McClanahan participated in that weekend. Twenty-five years later, that "one-time" event will be ending at Andrews University.



Don and Sue Murray, creators and leaders of Adventist Engaged Encounter, have been enriching marriages for 25 years. This photo was taken in the earlier years of their ministry.

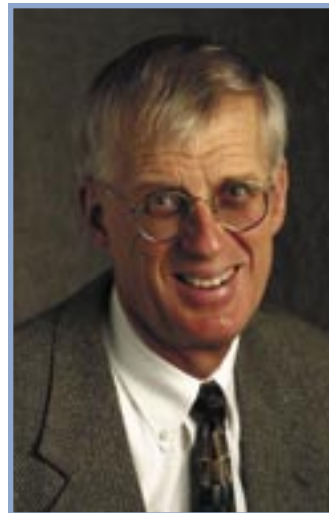
The weekend of Oct. 31–Nov. 2 will mark the 77th Adventist Engaged Encounter (AEE) weekend, as it has become known. To date, 1,476 couples have attended the weekends, designed to prepare couples for the reality of marriage, not just the fairy tale wedding. Engaged Encounter weekends are held primarily on the Andrews campus, but the Murrays have conducted AEE at Walla Walla College, Walla Walla, Wash.; Union College, Lincoln, Neb.; Southern Adventist University, Collegedale, Tenn.; and for the Oregon Conference.

Ron and Karen Flowers, General Conference family ministries directors, feel that AEE is an invaluable tool for young couples. "Don and Sue Murray have stood in for many pastors in the important role of preparing couples who were far from home for marriage. They have been both mentors and facilitators in opening couple dialog on a wide range of marriage issues. The Adventist Church around the world is better for its presence in our faith community."

If you would like to attend this final AEE weekend, engaged and married couples are welcome and can register by calling Andrews University Campus Ministries at (269) 471-3211.

Katie Shaw, University Relations news writer

The reasons for life choices can often be traced back to childhood experiences. Several such experiences for Rick Kosinski, professor of educational and counseling psychology at Andrews University, include his discovery of an article titled, "Teaching, a Man-sized Job," that he found in the magazine *Boy's Life*; reading *The Thread That Runs So True*, Jesse Stewart's autobiography that chronicled his experiences as a school teacher in Kentucky; and knowing Mr. Davis, a high school social studies teacher, who inspired him to teach. These three experiences encouraged Kosinski and put him on a trail that led him to a career in teaching and counseling.



Rick Kosinski

After college, Kosinski began to teach at the high school level in Southern California and later worked as a high school counselor. He moved to Michigan and began counseling and teaching at Andrews Academy in 1973. "High school is magic ... you're working with kids you might actually be able to have an impact on," said Kosinski. He enjoyed the challenge of teaching teenagers. "Part of the fun is the struggle," he says. Remembering his days from teaching at Andrews Academy, he says that working with teenagers was mostly entertaining. "There was rarely a day when I didn't throw my head back and laugh out loud."

After earning his Ph.D. in counseling psychology from Purdue University, West Lafayette, Ind., in 1983, Kosinski began teaching at Andrews University. In his work, Kosinski focuses primarily on training and mentoring graduate students in the counselor education program. As a mentor, Kosinski states, "You are trying to take the skills and knowledge that you have and pass them on to the people that you are training."

Kosinski believes that a spiritually and psychologically healthy person maintains a balance between self-interest and social interest. For him, teaching is a way of life. "I think my primary mission as a teacher is to try to live by the Golden Rule."

Bjorn Karlman, student news writer