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After 2 years in the first class at UCSD and earning a BA in Math from SDSU, I married Douglas Dirks in 1968 (just celebrated our 45th). Our son Olin was born (in a VW bug) in 1971, and daughter Jelena arrived in 1974. For 33 years I played 1st violin (and later viola) in the San Diego Symphony and Opera; in 1997 I won a coveted viola position in the Chicago Symphony Orchestra and just retired from CSO August of 2013. Doug has been the architect of many tuna seiners for the international market, Olin is in management of the Union Pacific Railroad, and Jelena just won the Principal Oboe audition for the St. Louis Symphony.

