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### Seldovian, Bob Elzig

by Mary Glover



#### Bob Elzig

The answer to "Who made the Christmas Wreath in the Gazette's "Tidbits" last week?" The Christmas Wreath was made by **BOB ELZIG!** Yep, Bob has many hidden talents. He not only makes wreaths out of very simple materials, but he also makes large globes out of the plastic cups and a string of lights. Another craft he is involved in is making earrings! The earrings are made from fish bones--the equilibrium bones. When I asked him if he sold the earrings, he said, "No, his family just likes to get them for gifts."

After he retired from the U.S. Air Force in 1974, he went to work for the FAA at the Headquarters in Anchorage in Communications and he worked there for 15 years, retiring in 1990. Then after this retirement he came to Seldovia and has been here ever since then!

When asking Bob why he chose Seldovia, he said that it was because of the deal he got into with a cousin in Anchorage and an Air Force buddy. All three guys were looking to buy for some property in Alaska. His Air Force friend knew a

Bob built his home here in the early 1980's, retired in 1990 and moved here permanently in 1990. He said that sports fishing brought him and his wife to Seldovia. He is the owner and Captain of the *Glass Slipper*. When asked what he liked to fish best, his answer was "mostly Halibut."

I asked Bob what his view was regarding trophy fishing? Bob said, "Well, if I was from out-of-state and pay'n a charter and I caught a big fish, then I would like to keep it. But, if I was a local person, then I think that they should have a size limit just like they do down in Washington and Oregon on the sturgeon. You can't keep anything larger than such and such and nothing smaller than such and such. They have a size limit on them."

Bob was born to Charles and Anna Elzig in El Dora, Iowa. His family were farmers. When Bob was 12 years old, the family moved from Iowa to Minnesota in February, 1945, and it was so cold there that they had to shovel snow to get into their driveway. He said that his dad bought a farm. They lived approximately 3 miles from Little Falls, Minnesota.

He said that he has not had many events in his life.... (And we believe that, Bob! Ha! Ha!) Bob entered into the U.S. Air Force in 1954 and served for 21 years! His first overseas assignment was in Korea in 1954 and his unit was then transferred to Japan. He returned from Japan in '56. In 1959 he went to Turkey and in 1968 served in Viet Nam.

realtor and the realtor said there was some property for sale in Seldovia. The three guys ended up coming down to Seldovia and they bought all three lots. When it came time to decide who got which lot, they numbered the lots and drew a number out of a hat. That is how Bob got the lot his house sits on today!

Bob's favorite thing about living in Seldovia is "Seclusion....there are no roads.... the only way you are going to get here is by air or by water and that keeps some undesirables out."

His favorite time of the year is summer because that is when he gets to go fishing and he said they usually get different visitors either from Alaska or from the lower '48.

Bob is married to Elaine and they will be having their 50th Wedding Anniversary in April. (Congratulations Elaine and Bob!) He has had three children, 4 grandchildren and three "great-grands"! Elaine and Bob's children are named Jerry, Marlene and Susan. Susan Elzig was an EMT in the first EMT class here in Seldovia. Her picture is hanging with all the other EMTs in the EMT classroom at the MPR building. Now Susan ("Susie") is an Administrator with the radiology section in the Boulder Hospital, Nevada.

Bob also likes to garden and "grew many a potato" year before last! He and Elaine live on the hill above the boat yard and you can see one of his wreaths hanging in the window, shining brightly from above.

