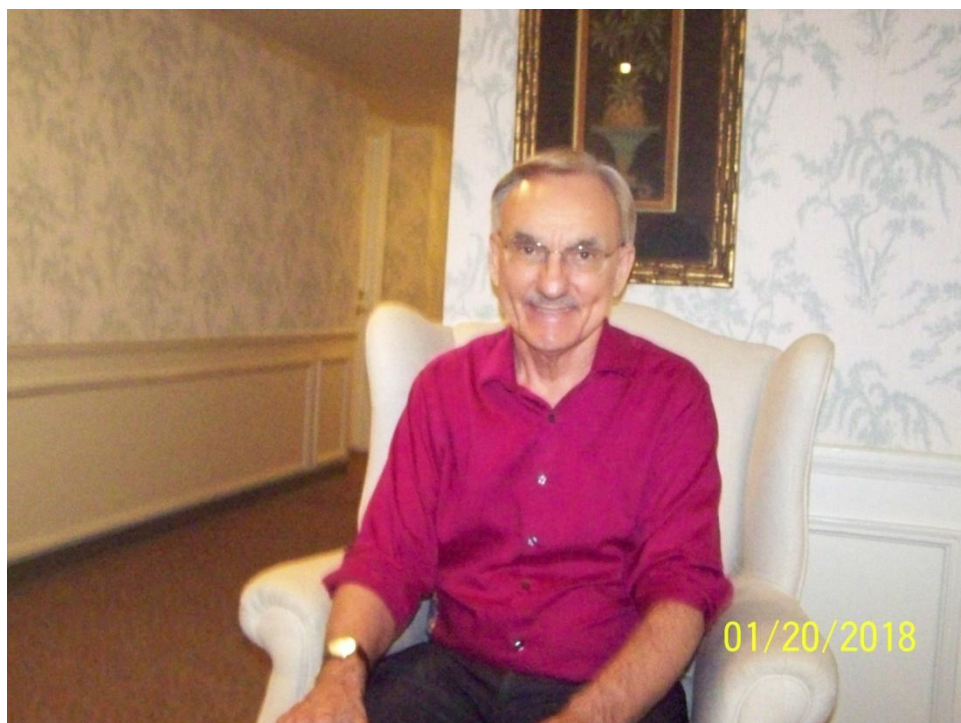


## MEET YOUR NEIGHBOR AT TREEMONT



*Each morning before opening my eyes, I see my purpose in my mind's eye in gigantic letters spread across a clear blue sky,*

***"LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE!"***

Words of the wise? Spoken by the sublime? Famous authors and masters of living?

These and other awesome sayings were written and spoken daily by resident Richard Shanks. He plays pool and dominos, but "Mr. Richard" (called by students and friends) is probably better known here as the talented piano player who entertains us after dinner in the lobby, performing popular, classical, and original pieces to our delight.

Mr. Richard's 65<sup>th</sup> birthday is February 18, 2018 at 8:18 p.m., and his apartment number is E218. Even his car sticker is 218! He said that the number "one" represents "unity" and the number "eight"

represents "infinity". When he orders coffee at IHOP, he asks for 218 "frisky" bubbles! Is this number "218" a coincidence? Richard even made and laminated his favorite menus for IHOP and Pappadeaux, using beautifully colored graphics and fonts!

One of four children born to Jack and Shirley Shanks, Mr. Richard was raised in Baytown and moved to Houston at age 13 when his father became Pastor of Pine Grove Baptist Church. Mr. R graduated valedictorian from Pine Grove Christian School, and attended Houston Baptist University, receiving 155 hours of credit in music and music education, though he began teaching piano at age 15. Many of his students have performed beautifully at Christmas and Spring Recitals since 1969. Mr. Richard encourages "practicing at a slow and steady tempo", and playing with much expression. He uses some of his own duets to make learning fun.

The wise words mentioned earlier are in Mr. Richard's book, The Magic Power of Love and Repetition, written for his twin niece and nephew, Nikki and Matthew, for their 18<sup>th</sup> birthday. He has written loving creations for family and friends taken from his 3 personal journals. His penmanship is as excellent as his musical performances. The journals are in color. One journal uses black print, one blue, and another hot pink – his favorite color!

Richard would love to meet with anyone who is interested in piano lessons. For residents at Treemont, there is a \$15.00 discount per lesson. \$30.00 for 45-minute lessons. For those who are interested, please call him at:

**RICHARD SHANKS            281-900-9824**

***LIVE, LAUGH, LOVE!***