

MARION UPPER, MS. SENIOR MICHIGAN 2006

Marion's motto: BE YOUR UPPER-MOST SELF

Marion resides in Sterling Heights and has spent most of her adult life in Macomb County. She was born and raised on a dairy farm in Lapeer. After graduating from MSU with honors, she was hired by Warren Consolidated Schools as an Art Teacher. After eight years, she became a High School Counselor and spent 30 years in that position, specializing in teenage suicide, grief management, divorce adjustment and substance abuse. Also, she was Activities Director, Student Council Advisor and SADD sponsor. As a result of her endeavors, she was initiated into the selective international Honorary Sorority, Alpha Phi-Alfa Delta Kappa. She has a Masters Degrees in Guidance and Counseling and in Social Work. Marion has worked as a therapist in mental health clinics.

During her middle teaching years, she authored a column for local newspapers entitled, "Positive Approach." Also, she was a public speaker for civic, church and educational organizations. She conducted goal-setting programs and for three years was the Motivational Coach for Warren High School's basketball team.

Marion spent many active years volunteering with the Warren Symphony, the educational program "Winning Futures" and her church. Currently, she is involved with her church, is a reader for High School Quiz Bowl Competitions, and performs with several musical and theatre groups. She teaches Mid-Eastern dancing in Michigan and in Arizona in the wintertime. She has produced several variety shows and Mid-Eastern Dance Revues. She has performed in many states, in Las Vegas and Atlantic City.

Marion used to be an avid skier and tennis player winning several trophies. Now, she prefers to be a world traveler, likes to read and enjoy her family and friends. Bi-annually, she attends the National Ms. Senior America Pageant to reacquaint with past contestants and queens. It's a Great Life!