

## **KIM WHITNEY FROM ROCHESTER HILLS CROWNED MS. SENIOR MICHIGAN 2018**



Kim was born in 1956, raised and educated in Detroit, and graduated from Redford High School in 1974. She attended Henry Ford Community College, then studied mechanical engineering at Lawrence Technological University and graduated from Oakland University with a Bachelor's degree in General Studies in 1991.

Her diverse educational training and academic honors gave her the necessary skills to work in the public sector as a Social Security Claims Representative in Richmond, CA and then as a Senior Claims Examiner with the Department of Labor in San Francisco from 1991-2000. She returned to Michigan continuing her work with the Social Security Administration until retirement in 2012.

Since retiring, Kim has actively performed with the 650 Players at OPC, the Sing Out Detroit chorus that she co-founded in 2008, and the Detroit Jazz Workshop. She has always loved to sing, learning her first song at eighteen months, and singing in numerous glee clubs and choirs from elementary school through college.

Kim credits her mother for encouraging her to bring the "joy of song" into her life. Kim has many fond memories of singing all types of music with her mother. Kim won her 2018 crown with a fabulous rendition of *Rise Up* by Andra Day which exemplifies what her mother taught her about life. Kim encourages all seniors to engage in new activities outside their daily routines.

Kim is married to an amazing woman, Pat Jones and has two stepsons, Bob and Jeff, a daughter-in-law, Tanya and two lovely grandchildren, Jonah, 16 and Sarah, 11. Kim feels blessed to have been at the birth of both her grandchildren and to share their love and extraordinary lives.