



Carroll Sherer traveled throughout the world with her late husband, Albert Sherer, while he served in the United States Foreign Service. — Sonia Fernandez photo

*Author Carroll Sherer leaves legacy of*

# A life of adventure

By Sonia Fernandez  
Staff Reporter

Greenwich resident Carroll Sherer is a member of what Tom Brokaw coined "the greatest generation." It was a generation of people who saw the social injustices that sparked World War II and took action in some way. Her desire to be a part of the war effort led her and her husband on travels throughout the world.

At the age of 85, however, she is taking a rest from her own adventures, but is leaving a legacy of exploration that will live on through her book, *A Great Adventure*, and her children.

"One of the reasons I wrote the book is so my fund of information was used in a constructive way," she said.

She said she had so many experiences to share she couldn't contain them so she wrote them down and decided to share them with anyone interested in picking up her book.

In her book, Ms. Sherer writes about her travels with husband, Albert Sherer, after he joined the United States Foreign Service. However, Ms. Sherer said her book isn't just about her life — it's also about modern international affairs.

She said international affairs have always been important and believes the country needs to mend its image among foreign countries.

"We ought to step back and listen," she said.

Ms. Sherer believes there is another "Greatest Generation" on the horizon

within those who are just entering their 20s.

"I believe you really care about the state of the world," she said of the new generation of people who she believes will be as proactive as her own generation.

While visiting different countries during the post-World War II era so many people were happy to see Americans lending a hand, she said. She added it was a terrible time in history, but it wasn't difficult to get acclimated to her different environments, whether it was France, Togo or India, because there was a large American presence. She said the American Army was almost everywhere and there were many facilities for U.S. diplomats.

"People were very glad to see Americans around and counted on the U.S. to solve problems... It was wonderful to see and participate in," she said.

She said people viewed the U.S. differently then; the U.S. was a leader when her husband was in the Foreign Service and the country "needs to reckon with the fact that we no longer are."

"We can lead but we can't push," she said.

In 1946, Ms. Sherer and her husband began their trip to Europe with their three-month-old baby Peter in tow. After a 10-day trip by ship they arrived in France where they were quickly transferred to Spain and finally reached Mr. Sherer's post in Tangier, Morocco, where they stayed

for several years.

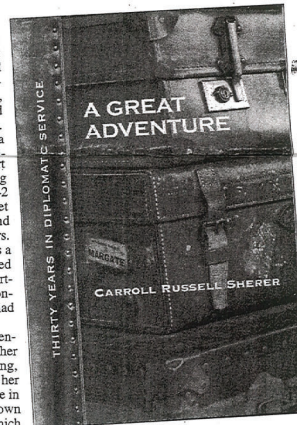
Aside from living in Morocco they spent some time in India and eastern Europe including Warsaw, Poland, which Ms. Sherer said was her favorite posts.

Ms. Sherer had a strong desire to contribute to the war effort even before marrying her husband, so in 1942 she joined the Cadet Nursing Corps and served for two years. The nursing corps was a group of nurses trained after there was a shortage of nurses nationwide since many had been sent overseas.

Apart from the adventures she shared with her husband in traveling, Ms. Sherer created her own adventures. While in Togo she set up her own clothing boutique, which became very popular.

After traveling with her husband for much of her life, she and Mr. Sherer decided to settle in Chicago, which is where they both grew up.

When her husband was diagnosed with cancer, Ms. Sherer said she knew she needed to look ahead to building a new life. She decided to go back to school. She attended the Harrington Institute for Interior



Design in Chicago and continued to pursue interior design for a while before moving to Greenwich.

It took Ms. Sherer five years to write her book and most of it from memory. She also used old letters she had written to conjure up some memories. She said she didn't keep a diary while overseas because it was often discouraged, especially when she was in eastern Europe where Americans feared a journal could end up in the

hands of communists.

Ms. Sherer settled in Greenwich five years ago in her late husband's parents' house. Today, she leads a quieter life. She built an addri her in-laws' 1750 house and e the rich history the town holds said she has seen the regard time Greenwich residents hav the town's history and hopes Greenwich residents continue tradition.

While her life may be quiet her Greenwich home, her lega exploration and desire to unite world for a greater good is tran ted to her daughter, Susan O who travels throughout the v working as a talent scout and rec for human rights organizations.

Ms. Sherer's grandson is China correspondent for the Chi Tribune and has lived in China few years.

"After a lifetime of adventure, good to see them going on," said.

Ms. Sherer's book may be fou Just Books in Old Greenwich.

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From left, Albert Sherer, Carroll Sherer, Ambassador John Moors Cabot, his wife and a Polish official chat at a social event in Warsaw, Poland.