

## Why I Write

For over thirty years, after taking a college level creative writing class, I've had the bug to do fiction writing, with the notion of someday tackling a novel. Since then, I dabbled with poetry, and a few short storylines, memoirs, etc. Then, in 2009, an old friend, Katherine Gilberg, invited me to join Mid-Michigan Word Gatherers writing group. It turned out to be the right stimulus and pushed me to become a serious and productive writer. The weekly prompts, opportunity to share your work and feedback from people who care about writing convinced me that writing is something I'll do til the grave. The creative process of writing fiction and poetry is just fun for me. The Writer's High is real. And that there is a Muse inside your mind who will push, pull and nudge you through a story plot is real. When asked how I came up with a particular story, often all I can offer is, "A character came to me, and her story unfolded before me. So I wrote it down. Where it came from is beyond me."

I developed this website in part to fulfill the last big-ticket item on my bucket list, which should not to be interpreted to mean that I'm at the end of the line. Instead, it simply means I haven't yet added anything new yet. There's a writer's adage that goes something along: "Why write if there's no one to read it" - a writer writes to be read. This site is a way of sharing what I've created.

The Short Story collection provides an assortment of many genre - humor, fantasy, sci-fi, mystery, romance, etc.- something for everyone. Generally, I enjoy writing about characters, using storylines to show something about the people in the story. Within this collection is a group titled Short Shorts. These are very short pieces, often done in the writing group, which I use as practice in scene or character development.

In the Poetry section you will find work that might be considered Eulogies written as poems about my friends and family. Many of the other poems were created for the novel George and Irma, currently in rough draft development.

Why do I write? I love the creative juice, the high, discovering where the muse will lead me on the path of a story. Characters are my focus and I use a story to reveal their character - who they are. Creating stories with interesting characters is a real hoot!