# Senior Spotlight:
## The Jenkins Family

Warren and Ernestine Jenkins moved to Sylvania from the Philadelphia area in 2010. Their granddaughter already lived in the area and brought them to the Senior Center in 2011 to get involved. Ernestine signed up for the twice-weekly Strength and Balance class, while Warren, a veteran of World War II, volunteered in the office.

Debbie Jenkins, Warren and Ernestine's daughter, had lived near them in the Philadelphia area and joined them in Sylvania – and at the Senior Center - after her retirement in 2013. A former nurse's aide, Debbie enjoys assisting with the weekly blood pressure and glucose screenings on Tuesdays, checking up on the regular attendees. She attends the Strength and Balance class with Ernestine, and ran the lights at the 2014 Follies show. On top of all that, she continues to work part-time "to keep busy".

All three Jenkins describe the Center as a warm, welcoming place with people who are "so full of life". Coming to the Center, they say, "makes them feel a part of something good." It's the reason why they feel so comfortable at the Center and why they want to give back to others, as volunteers and as donors to the Sylvania Community Services Foundation.

Ernestine describes the Strength and Balance group members as a family who share their lives and their stories. "It's just the best group of people", she says, "who really look after one another." If anyone misses a class or two, a group member calls or stops by to see how they are. Debbie says that "if people get lonesome, they should come here."

Warren, a World War II veteran, loves his volunteer work while Ernestine and Debbie are taking their twice-weekly Strength and Balance exercise class. Warren's prior volunteer experience involved working with



Ernestine, Debbie and Warren Jenkins in our beautiful Nature Lounge.

inner city youth in Philadelphia, so helping out in the office has provided him with new opportunities to learn, especially about graphic design and layout. He says "I'm growing older, but I'm not old."