



Lucy Steele, G.G.

HERITAGE APPRAISER FOR THE SOUTH (LA, TX)

While attending The American University in Paris France I was introduced to a gem dealer from Nairobi who was instrumental in bringing Tanzanite to the U.S. market, and more importantly to the jewelry icon, Tiffany & Co. After many years of correspondence I eventually made a trip to Kenya to learn more about the East African gem trade. It was there that I was encouraged to attend GIA in Santa Monica, California.

Graduate Gemologist degree in hand, I began my career with the high-end, French luxury retailer, Fred Joaillier, on 5th Avenue, NYC and Rodeo Drive, Beverly Hills, California. We sold lavish suites of jewelry to countless movie stars, stunning Saudi princesses and powerful Hollywood producers. After the bright lights of Tinsel Town, it was time to take a break and return to my roots.

"Home" for me has always been beautiful Central Kentucky horse country--and where my next adventure awaited: as a diamond and colored stone buyer for a regional jewelry chain retailer. I absolutely loved it but after 4 years, the entrepreneur in me was ready to come out.

After relocating to Dallas Texas, I formed Equity Jewelry Appraisers and for the next 14 years appraised jewelry, co-sharing with industry giant, Zale's Corporation; BBB, Corrigan's, other retail stores, and with state and federal agencies.

I am happily married to a wonderful Aussie from Down Under. We are both scuba divers and equestrians. We have 4 grandchildren in Australia and travel there often.

If you are ever in Houston, please stop by. There is always some Fosters on ice and some shrimp on the barbie...