



This week the
Spotlight is on
Jack Atkins

Jack Atkins was born in 1930 in Chesterfield County, Virginia. As a kid, his favorite pastime, other than reading, was bicycle riding.

His bike riding often brought him to the tracks to watch trains go by. And that train watching led him to to one of his present-day hobbies: model trains, and to New Zealand, where he got to “drive” a restored steam locomotive.



After graduating high school in 1948, Jack entered the University of Richmond, where he joined the U.S. Marine’s Platoon Leaders program. This was the beginning of many years of military training in the Marines and later in the Army and the National Guard.

In ‘retirement’, Jack has worked and toured with the Elder Hostel program for a number of years. It was with that program that he went to New Zealand (and England) to ‘play’ with trains. Through the program, he had the opportunity to work on repair and restoration projects.

His definition of *family*? “In family,” Jack says, “an individual can learn decision making, and the consequences of [poor] decisions, and still be loved and accepted.”

Jack feels the FPC family is “open, accepting, sharing, and caring. At 86, I cannot do as much as I would like to do in support of my church family, but I’ll keep trying.”