

Life as I know it today.



I was very happy to find this house south of Tyler, in Rusk, TX. With my VA benefits, I was able to get a VA loan and have now a very nice, recently remodeled, 900 sqft + 2 bedroom. It sits on 1/3 acre, so just enough grass to keep me busy mowing. I purposely did not buy a riding mower. I have an electric that can mow longer than I can walk behind it.

The house had been built in the 1980's and remodeled in 2020. Including adding new AC and tankless water heater. Also walls sheet rocked and plugs almost everywhere except in kitchen. They did not do much with floors and the carpets are old but that is fine.

I started by having grey rock brought in to make driveway and using my pickup to add a little more to expand it enough to have two spots for parking. I was going to build a workshop but costs and most places had a waiting list for a few months. So since I had a nice little enclosed trailer I was thinking about selling, I

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decided to turn it around and put it on jacks and stabilize it. I can store tools and mower and junk.



So this was a great savings and it has been very easy to use and holds everything I need.

To be able to finance and do all this, I was lucky enough to sell my 34 ft Open Range travel trailer and after I was done using it, sold the 2005 GMC for what I had paid for it 5 years ago.

The other things I did right away, was to fence in the front porch. I had contracted to get the fence built but the guy ended up getting posts in and some 2x4's to attach fence planks too but then seemed he never had time to come back and finish. So I fired him and put the cedar on fence myself. Then I bought a hot tub to go on the porch. I also them started working on putting in a water garden.

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I really love sitting in my little yard. The hot tub is nice to get me work up each morning and I have 7 fish in my water garden and enjoy it a lot.



I now live a quiet life. I keep a schedule of M-W-F to go to the gym here in Rusk. The T-T I go to Jacksonville to enjoy a workout in the pool there and then stop at the car wash, I have a monthly deal. Then if I need some groceries, I stop by Walmart. Jacksonville is only 14 miles away and has most everything one might need. So mornings are hot tub, gym or pool and then iPad and iPhone games. When needed, afternoon or evening for yard work. Evening are reading, tv, sitting on patio to watch sunset.

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Rusk also has a small theater that I had joined to have seats for the plays they put on a few times a year. I always liked helping out too. Last summer I helped with a program for kids for the summer for acting.

Some of my doctors are in Tyler, where Wendy and family live. So going up there occasionally for appointments, it gives me an excuse to visit. Also being only 35 miles away, I can visit for any functions for the girls or help Wendy with yard or house. All this makes it easy to keep up with my cruising life.

Cruises have been taking up a lot of my time the last few years, but the plan is to trim that down to free up some of my budget. I am hoping sometime to either be able to buy a small sailboat again or take trips to the BVI to charter a 50ft sailboat to enjoy the islands.

So I can't really complain about life, but then who would listen. I work pretty hard getting the VA to keep up with my health issues, but they manage to finally take care of things. So life is good....