

Name David F. Dean

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Where did you meet your spouse? La Gloria, Baja California, Mexico. I was living, studying and working with an evangelical ministry (The Bible Speaks) in Lake Elsinore, California. We developed an outreach involving taking food and clothing to orphanages and children's homes in Tijuana and south. Since I had a pickup and spoke some Spanish I got to do most of the delivering. My wife, Irma, worked and lived with her two children in one of the larger homes, run by a retired American Assemblies of God pastor and his wife. One day I had a dozen giant boxes of frozen hot dogs on a stick packed in dry ice and when I went into the kitchen, Irma was in charge as the couple who ran the place were away. She put the huge pot of beans she had been cooking on the back burner and started frying the hot dogs. This was a special treat for these kids and they could have all they wanted, so they knocked themselves out. It was a lot of fun and a sweet and tender, but complicated and challenging love story ensues, which is too long for here, but I moved next to the orphanage to court Irma and everything worked out ok.

How long have you been married?
26 years

How many pets do you have? We have been blessed with some wonderful dogs and cats over the years. I am grieving the loss last year of our boxer, Kane, my best friend. We have a dachshund/chihuahua puppy and my son's older pug.

Children (names & ages) Raul (30+), Maria (30+), David Jr. (25), Dina (23).

Grandchildren (names & ages) Analisa (6), Mia (2), Levon (1) and two on the way.

Great-grandchildren? I got a late start.

Favorite spare-time activities: Playing the guitar, gardening, watching movies and listening to music. I attend a couple of gentle yoga classes a week and try to walk some every day. I am involved with a medical marijuana cooperative. Three of our children live in San Diego, so we get together often.

College & schools attended: OU, UTEP, WTSU(B.A.), St.Mary's and UT law (I didn't finish law school).

Are you retired? **yes**

Occupation **After I dropped back in, I worked as a school bus driver in San Diego for 20 years.**

Minor or major occurrences and significant events since high school: **I left law school to work for the Alaska State Legislature as a fiscal analyst. I left that job to live with the hippies for about five years, mostly in Oregon and Arizona. I had a personal encounter with Jesus Christ and moved to Southern California to attend Bible school. I went to live 20 miles south of the border (see "SPOUSE" above) for about eight years. I started working in San Diego in '82 and we moved here in '88. I continued driving a school bus until severe osteoarthritis and hip replacement helped me decide to retire in '02.**

What accomplishments are you most proud of (work-related or personal life)? **I am proud of our family. I have a good and loving relationship with my wife, children and grandchildren. I matured slowly (if at all) so I am so thankful things turned out as well as they have. After an inconsistent and shaky start I think it's neat that I had one wife for 26 years and one job for 20 years.**

Any message for fellow classmates? **I am glad that we are getting together. I have fond memories of so many of you, and have always been proud and happy to be from Amarillo.**

