

Name **John A. Wardlaw (Johnny)**

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Phone **512-868-3394**

Where did you meet your spouse? **Houston, TX**

How long have you been married? **12 years**

How many pets do you have? **2**

Children (names & ages) --

Grandchildren (names & ages) --

Great-grandchildren? --

Favorite spare-time activities:

**S**

College & schools attended:

**E**

**B**

Are you retired? **yes**

Occupation

**E**

**E**

Minor or major occurrences and significant events since high school:

**L**

What accomplishments are you most proud of (work-related or personal life)?

**O**

Any message for fellow classmates?

**W**

**John A. Wardlaw – Additional Information**

**After graduating from Amarillo High School in 1957, I attended Amarillo Junior College, then transferred to West Texas State. I worked at North State Bank to cover my college expenses, and graduated with a Bachelors in Business Administration in 1962.**

**As soon as I received my degree, the long finger of the military beckoned, and instead of going to work in the private sector, I found myself in boot camp in Ft. Polk, Louisiana. Afterward, I was sent to Ft. Dix in New Jersey to train in the finance office. One of the perks of being assigned there was its proximity to Philadelphia and New York, which offered an opportunity to do a number of things I might not have gotten around to otherwise.**

**You can probably imagine how exciting it was for a kid from Amarillo to walk down Broadway. With a few buddies, I went into the city to a number of plays. *The Miracle of 34<sup>th</sup> Street* and *How to Succeed in Business* are two you might recognize. We also went to the Empire State Building, Guggenheim Museum, the Statue of Liberty, the Staten Island Ferry and Coney Island. Since I have been a life-long sports fan, getting to see Mickey Mantle play at Yankee Stadium and the Philadelphia Phillies play at Connie Mack Stadium was the highlight of my time there.**

**Although I had high hopes of being stationed somewhere in Europe, Uncle Sam had other ideas about my future and I was sent to Pusan, South Korea. There I worked in the finance office until my military obligation was fulfilled.**

**After I returned to the States, I started working for Texaco, in Houston, and remained there for 37 years—until my retirement in November of 2001. I also met all three of my wives in Houston. With my first wife, Teddy, I had my only child, a son named Scott. He was killed by a drunk driver at the age of 15 while he was biking to keep in practice for upcoming competitions.**

My second marriage was short. It contained a pretty but mean woman, two step children from hell, and was the stuff of bad dreams and good soap operas. Now I am in a third marriage—to Virginia. We have been together close to 15 years, and I think I am going to keep this one. At least that's what I'd better say because she may be with me at the reunion.

For any of you who thought I was the shy type who would never find a woman, I guess I proved you wrong. Sometimes they're easier to get than to get rid of. What can I say—you can't live with them; you can't live without them. Even my two dogs are female.

Laura Jane and Annie, West Highland terriers who are 10-year-old sisters, are pretty important to our lives. Like others of their sex, they love to control, but Virginia insists she is the dominant female. We have all retired to Sun City, located west of Georgetown, TX, where I am still trying to determine my position in the household. Although our dogs refuse to take Virginia's claim to superior status seriously, since I am the only man in the house, I think it's safe to say I *am* the dominant male.

Although I'm content to enjoy the slower pace of retirement, my wife, a retired English teacher, is busy writing on a novel. Sometimes I don't know whether I'm in the house with her or Rachel, the main character in her story. However, it really doesn't matter. Experience has taught me that whoever they are, it's safe to come out if they're in a good mood. If not, I just lay low.

