

Who Am I?



What year did I graduate? **1969**

Who did I go to the senior prom with? **Gwen Burke '70**

What organizations did I belong to in high school? **Concert Band, Stage Band, Soul Band, Student Council and French Club**

What grade was I in when this picture was taken? **8th grade**

What state do I live in now? **Golden, Colorado**

How many kids do I have now? **One Daughter**

What is or was my occupation? **Mergers & Acquisitions Advisor**

My closest friend in HS? **Homer Laird '69, David Hart '69, and Sunny McClard '69**

posted 03-03-07

What have I been doing since high school?

In the fall of 1969, I enrolled at San Jacinto College to study Computer Science. During my freshman year, I had a life changing experience. In the summer of 1970, I gave my life to the Lord Jesus Christ. I have tried to walk with Him every day since. I have no idea where I would be without Him. He is my Rock and my Redeemer.

In 1971, I earned an A.A. degree in Computer Science. I planned to transfer to UT Austin but it didn't work out. So I decided to take some time off from college and began my business career at Brown & Root in Computer Operations. During the same year, I left the singles fraternity and got married.

All of this seemed like a great idea at the time – take some time off for a while and resume my studies in a year. I wasn't worried about the draft. My lottery number was in a safe stratosphere. Well, it came as a frightful surprise when that special envelope arrived from Uncle Sam announcing his invitation for me to see the world. He gave me the option to be an Army Reservist so I jumped at the option. Didn't want to be an Airborne Ranger. For the next six years, once a month, I shed my civilian life and became a weekend warrior.

In the fall of 1973, I resumed my studies at the University of Houston. For the next four years I worked full-time and worked on my degree. In 1977, they finally had enough of me and kicked me out with a degree in Finance. After graduation, Brown & Root wanted me to move into the Treasury Group but I had other plans. I wanted to be a computer programmer. I spent the next seven years tinkering with their financial systems. Can you spell COBOL?

During this time I was blessed with two wonderful children. Christian was born in 1974 and Tiffany was born in 1976. Christian is the gregarious, extemporaneous type; Tiffany the quiet, shy type.

At age thirty-two, I woke up one day and was single again. Wasn't in the plans but it happened. I decided to move on and in 1982 went to work for NL Industries in their financial systems group. In 1986, NL decided to start a new company in Europe to manage all of their foreign currency assets. They shipped me to Brussels with a one-way ticket and said don't come home.

We completed the mission the following year. It was a very enjoyable experience and my hope was to make it permanent. Brussels is a nice livable city. Great food. Every day after lunch I stopped at the original Godiva (pronounced godeeVA in French) shop and bought a chocolate truffle or two for dessert. I'm not kidding. Who could pass it up? Well the permanent job was nixed so they shipped me back to Houston.

The only problem was the company had no job for me there. You may recall, 1987 was during the oil crash. There were no jobs in Houston period! They wanted me to move to New Jersey. Are you kidding? From Brussels to New Jersey. Not on my wish list as they say. A few months later I was very fortunate to slide into a position at Coca-Cola Foods (now known as The Minute Maid Company) without any job interruption.

For the next 10 years, I learned everything there is to know about orange juice. It's like Bubba Gump shrimp. There's OJ, FCOJ, MMOJ, MMFCOJ and the list goes on and on. In 1990, I met Betty Simpson, the love of my life. She's one of those brains. Graduated from high school in 3 years then graduated from A&M in 3 years with a math degree. Disgusting! We dated for a year and married in June 1991. We are happily married. The secret to our marriage is we never discuss differential equations.

In 1996, I left Coca-Cola Foods and became a consultant with Cap Gemini. I worked on a variety of projects and in 1998 they shipped me to Colorado to start a new practice helping American companies prepare for the introduction of the new Euro currency. We've been here ever since.

We live in Golden. You know the home of Coors Brewery. We live in the foothills away from town. It is a beautiful place to hang your hat – twenty minutes from downtown Denver and only an hour from five ski resorts.

In 2002, I started my own financial services company working with small business owners. I work from home now. It's kind of nice. Very convenient but I miss working with people.

Now Guess who I am. Once you figure it out, please do stop by when you come through Golden. All the best. I am Kris Campbell.