

John Dascanio

John came to Aruba from New Jersey before he was of school age and left after 10th grade when his father went to Venezuela to establish a chemical company. He may not have completed high school in Aruba, but he made a lot of friends, including, apparently, Gene Williams.

John graduated from Georgia Tech and received a Master's degree from the University of Missouri, Kansas City. He had a career in the Army serving in the U.S., Europe, Okinawa, Korea and Vietnam. He and his wife Mary Sue had 5 children and numerous grandchildren.

After retiring at the rank of colonel in 1988 with 30 years of service, John went to work as Chief of Procurement Office, Teltara Inc., a government contractor in Scottsdale, AZ. John met Diane in 1993, following the divorce from his previous spouse, and they were married in 1995. In 2001 the couple began a two year mission with the Mormon Church in their New York City North Mission. John was the mission's fleet coordinator while Diane served as mission secretary. Their service ended in 2003 and they returned to Arizona.



The tug *Captain Rogers* upon running aground.

Photograph taken by and courtesy of Homer Waits.

The Featherston Twins: Richard and Robert

The Featherston twins were born in Oklahoma but started school in Aruba. They were with the class through the 9th grade. They graduated from high school in Tulsa, OK and went into the Navy. During their Navy careers they went on USO tours with their very successful tap dancing routine. They were living together in Palm Springs, CA in 2001 but have since moved, leaving no forwarding address.



Cunucu house. (1938)

Photograph courtesy Don Blair.

Marion (Bruce) Fernando

Marion came to Aruba from Scotland while still a pre-schooler. She graduated with the class of '54 and attended Duke University where she roomed with classmate Kay Norris. She received her B.A. from Duke in 1958 and a year later obtained an M.A.T. from Yeshiva University in New York. Her student teaching assignment was in the Bowery with a class full of street smart kids who, instead of eating her alive, were charmed by her gentle nature, her British accent and her beautiful eyes, making sure she was always treated with utmost respect.

She then taught English for a brief time in a public school in Florida but left to join her parents in Peterhead, Scotland. She had a short stint teaching in Scottish public schools but soon took a position teaching English to business majors in a private community college, which later included some administrative details.

Marion was diagnosed with terminal cancer in 1986 and died on April 16, 1987 at age 51.



Bachelor Quarters No. 4. (1938)

Photograph courtesy Don Blair.

Robert Frye

Bob came from Tulsa, OK and was with the class in grades nine through eleven. Being the tallest boy in class, he played center on the basketball team. He then went back to the U.S. and graduated from Blackwell, OK high school. He is believed to be living in Perry, OK. .



The T-docks at Rodger's Beach, early 1940's.

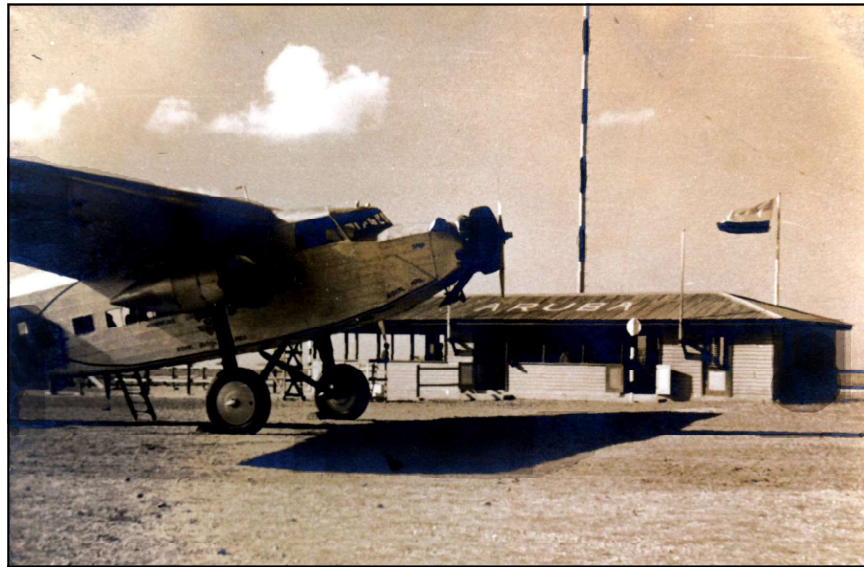
Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection. Source unknown.

Robert Frank Gladman

Bob came to Aruba from South Dakota at pre-school age and stayed through high school. He attended Oklahoma State University and received a BS in Marketing in 1959. He then went in the Navy and after his service he spent 12 years as a manager for Household Finance Corp. before going to work as a stockbroker for Dean Witter Reynolds in California.

During that time he married and had two children, Bryon and Heather and was divorced. He had custody of his children and in 1980 he married Nan Edge Ryman and moved as stock broker for Dean Witter to Sugarland, Texas. There were many commutes in to Houston. He has two children and two grandsons.

After divorcing Nan, Bob moved to Houston, TX where he continued to work as a stockbroker. He died of cancer there on Jan. 31, 1994 and was survived by his sister Shirley ('51), the two children and the two grandchildren.



KLM Fokker three-engine plane at Aruba airport (early 1940's). This is similar to the one Homer Waits came on in 1946.

Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection.

Donald Greene

Don was born in Aruba and stayed with the class through 8th grade. He then went to prep school in the U.S., was in the Army and in college in Boston and Arizona and received a B.A. in government, economics and math from the University of Arizona in 1963.

He married Evelyn in 1964 and they have a son, David, who lives in Albany. From 1963 to 1976, Don worked as a computer programmer in Albany, NY. He was also experimenting with small farming in Saratoga County, NY from 1968-73.

As for life after that, Don makes the following observation: “I think perhaps time ended in the late ‘70s, someplace around the attainment of age 40. I’ve trudded up some six or eight hundred mountains since then, apparently looking for something or other but arranging never to find it.” The Greene's currently live in North Creek, N.Y.

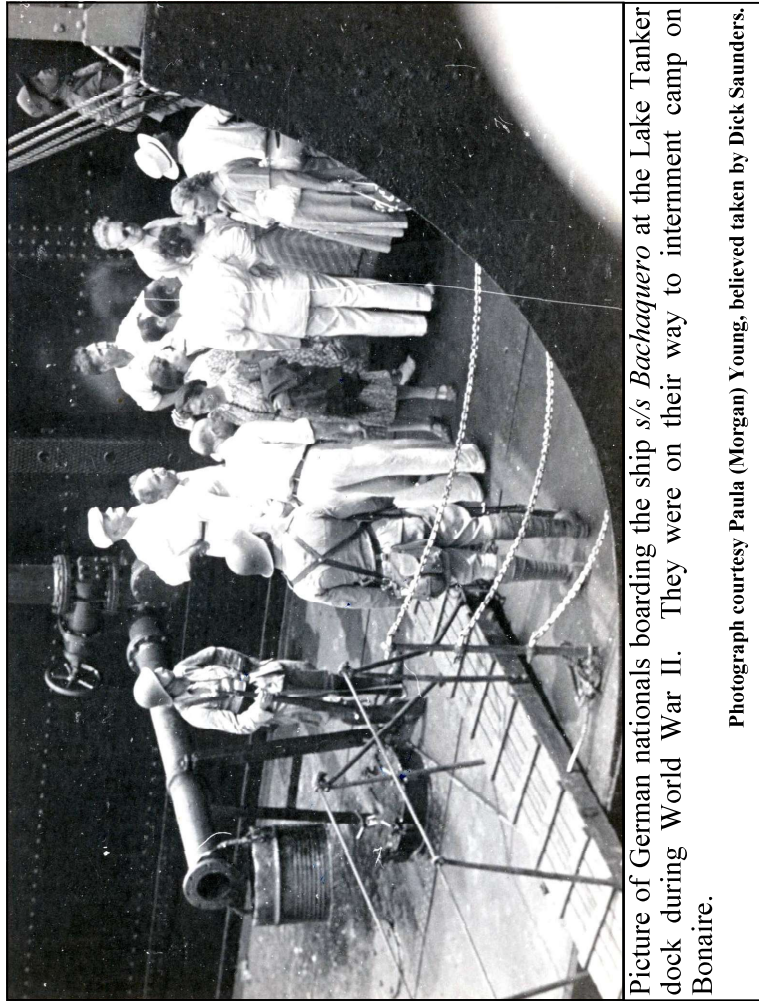


Aloe farm harvest & production, early 1940's.

Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection. Source unknown.

Beverly (Couch) Hamilton

Evelyn and Irby Couch came to Aruba in 1929 and stayed until 1942. Son Jack and daughter Beverly were born in Aruba, but Beverly, born in 1936 was only there long enough to attend first grade with the class of '54. Currently she lives in Sedona, AZ with her spouse Ulf.



Julia (Judy Ballard) Johnson

Born in Aruba, she was a classmate through the eighth grade. She left Aruba in 1950 and finished high school at Tudor Hall, Indianapolis, IN in 1954.

She then attended a business college in Evansville, IN and afterwards worked for two years with various companies in Caracas, Venezuela where she roomed with Xenia Schwartz ('51).

In 1962 she moved to New York and worked for American Home Products and several advertising agencies. Her spare time was spent with volunteer work at the New York Foundling Hospital and the New York School for the Deaf.

In 1965 she married Doug Johnson who was a Senior Vice President of McCann-Erickson, a world-wide advertising agency. In 1979 they moved to Indianapolis where Doug taught in the School of Business at Indiana University and wrote magazine articles.

After retirement Doug continued to write for "Indiana Business Magazine" and "Sporting Classics Magazine." Judy does volunteer work with her Neighborhood Ministry, Bible study groups and a Sunday school class.

Elna (Harris) King

Born in Aruba, Elna attended Lago until the 8th grade when she went off to boarding school at St. Martin's Hall, Our Lady of the Lake, San Antonio, TX. She returned to Lago for the first semester of the 10th grade, but her father then retired.

The family moved to Corpus Christi, TX where Elna graduated from W.B. Ray High School. She married right out of high school and had four children, three boys and a girl. One child was killed in an automobile accident in 1975. Two of the children are chemists and the other one is an electrical engineer. She has three grandchildren, one girl and two boys. She is currently divorced.

Elna has an undergraduate degree in Computer Information Systems and an MBA with a specialty in computers. She was employed as a Computer Specialist for the HQ U.S. Army Medical Command, Fort Sam Houston, Texas in the Operations Directorate and retired at the end of 2003.



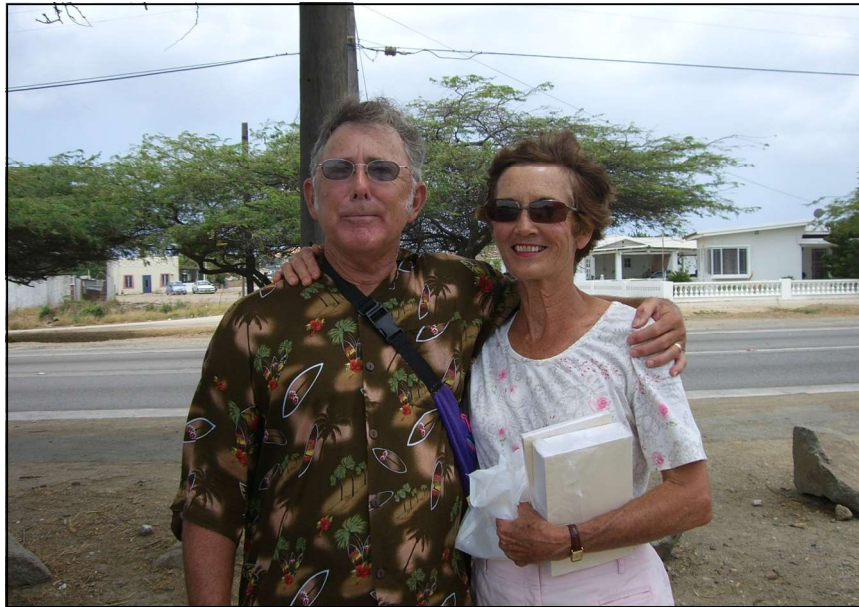
Tri-Motor plane taking off from Aruba.

Photograph courtesy of J L Lopez family.

Nancy Koopman

Born in Aruba, Nancy went to Florida after graduation and after college was working there for KLM at the Miami airport in 1960. She later married Gerry Krullaars, had two children, Michele and Kevin, and lived with her family in Aruba for 8 years until 1970 when she moved with her children to Brielle in the southern part of Holland and at some point was divorced. She spent a number of years looking after her mother who passed away not long ago. Her sister Loesje (*56) lived nearby at that time. Nancy did charity work with the Old Age Peoples Home, looked after four grandchildren and enjoyed biking, tennis and squash. ¹

¹Nancy has passed away since this was written. . .Loesje now lives in Aruba. See picture of her and me taken in Aruba in June of 2006. She used to be my babysitter when I was little. At the time of the picture, I hadn't seen her in over 50 years.



Vic Lopez & Lulu Koopman, June 21, 2006.

Photo courtesy Vic Lopez.

John Lecluse

Born in Aruba, John was with the class in grade school, but at one point his parents sent him off to boarding school in Holland and then to Georgia Military Academy. There he roomed with former Lago students Richard Krottenauer ('55) and Peter Boros.

He then attended Georgetown University and met his wife, Rosemary, a Registered Nurse. They were married in 1960 and had four children, Johnny, Michael, Tim and Jacqueline.

John first worked for a brokerage company and then for a management consultant firm. He was next employed by Monroe Calculators and in 1968 was sent to their subsidiary in the Netherlands. After Monroe was taken over by Litton Industries, John moved over to Wang Computers. He set up their operations in the Netherlands, United Kingdom and the Middle East.

John then opened his own import-export business in computers and telecom equipment. He became ill in 1988 and had major surgery which brought about retirement at age 52.

Since 1996, he and his wife Rosemary spend their summers in the Netherlands visiting their children and five grand-children and the winters at their condo in Florida where they enjoy playing golf, tennis and going to the beach.

Nancy MacEachern

Her family ties to Aruba go back further than anybody's. Her grandfather on her mother's side, George Hopkins, was a doctor for the Dutch government as early as 1909 and is credited with bringing the first automobile to Aruba in 1915.

Born in Aruba, Nancy left during grade school as her father was assigned first to New York and then to Creole in Venezuela. The family, which also included older brother Don ('50) and younger sister Vivian ('55), returned to Aruba in 1948 and Nancy attended seventh through 9th grades. She finished high school in the U.S.A.

She attended the University of Miami and South Dade Community College, both in Florida. In 1956 she was back in Aruba working with the new government hotel and in the export-import business. She then spent a year living in Holland and learning Dutch before coming back to join the staff at the Aruba Caribbean Hotel/Casino.

In 1964 she married into one of the old Aruban families (Henriquez) and lived four years in the States while her husband was with an electrical construction company. They had a son, Hanslee.

They were separated in 1972 and later divorced. Nancy went with her son to California and worked in real estate and attended Santa Monica College. From 1984 to '87 she was at Stanford (where her son had a scholarship) and wore three hats, anxious parent, brain crushed student and tired employee of the university. The windy '90s drove her back to Aruba where remodeling the family house has kept her busy. Nancy's unfinished masterpiece keeps her in hardware stores, painting walls and getting to the beach only once a month. A visit to California every few months keeps her half sane.

Aileen (McReynolds) McAdams

Aileen was a Lago student for a time in elementary school (recorded in 5th grade) and then again in senior high school and graduated with the class. She then went to Western College for Women in Oxford, OH and received an M.A. in Home Economics in 1958.

After graduation Aileen worked as a buyer in one of Cincinnati's department stores and later was a research analyst and became an executive in 1967.

She married Jim McAdams in December 1970 and they spent their honeymoon in Vail, CO. In June 1974 she was operated on for cancer and on May 3, 1976 she died at University Hospital in Columbus, OH.

Aileen's mother, Lotje, was Lago High School secretary in 1954 and later wrote this about her daughter: "I would like to say that in Aileen's short life time, she never gave us any cause for sorrow. After she stopped work and was married, she and I had some great times together. We would shop and visit antique stores and interior decorator stores (her joy) or go to garden shows, while Jim was at his office. We were really like good friends or sisters. To Mac, she was his joy. She was a lot like him, I think." Aileen and Mac are buried in Worthington.



Odis “Lad” Mingus

Born in Florida, Lad came to Aruba at a pre-school age. After graduation he went to the University of Texas and received a bachelor's degree in 1958.

He then was a U.S. Navy pilot for four years, ending his tour in Spain. After studying at the University of Madrid he went to California and worked for Bank of America in San Francisco until 1967.

He then returned to the University of Texas for law school and graduated in 1969. In 1973 he moved to St. Croix, VI with wife Ann (Nixon '57) and her daughter Shannon. They lived across the street from Danny Jensen ('58) and Lad and Danny started a hardware store together.

Lad left to become an Assistant Attorney General for the Virgin Islands. He was a prosecutor for two years and then entered private practice.

In 1983 he sold the practice and began working as a financial consultant for Merrill Lynch. He started practicing law again in 1990 and was a trial attorney until he retired in December 2001.

In 1974 Lad and Ann divorced and he married Mary Cavanaugh in 1976. They adopted two Korean babies, Mia and Marisa, in 1980 and 1982 respectively. In January 2002 the couple separated and filed for divorce and Lad left St. Croix for Texas where he went through mediation training. Since then he has been mediating cases. He was subsequently married to Nan (Edge) Ryman.

Arthur “Clyde” Miller

Clyde was born in the “old” Lago Hospital on February 1, 1936 and attended Lago Community School with the class of ‘54 up through the seventh grade and then was with the class of ‘55. Some early schooling, however, was in the U.S, due to WWII. When Gladys Miller was expecting her second child she and Clyde sailed from Aruba on June 18, 1941. With U-boats roaming the Caribbean, it was almost two years before they were able to return to the island.

In December 1954 Bill Miller retired and the family moved to Santos, Brazil where Bill worked for Hydrocarbon Research Co. for the next two years. During that time Clyde taught Conversational English in a local English language school.

The family returned to Baytown, TX in 1956 and Clyde went to work as an Instrument Electrician for Brown & Root and eventually retired from the company.

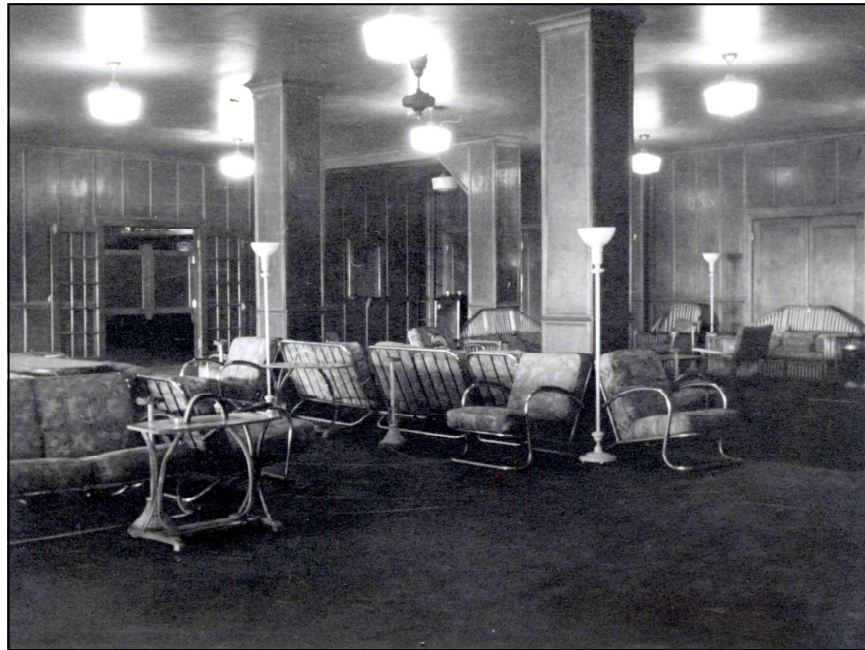
Clyde passed away on December 5, 2001 at a healthcare facility in Spring, TX after having a stroke. He is survived by his sister Billie Sue (‘59), two sons, William Neal and Arthur Clyde Jr., and four grandsons, all of Houston, TX.



William W. “Billy” Moore

He came from Texas and joined the class in the fourth grade. After Aruba he spent his life as a commercial painter working in various states including nine years on the Palos Verde nuclear reactor in Arizona.

In 1979 he hosted a reunion for the class of ‘54 in Flagstaff, AZ. He was estranged from his family for a number of years and passed away in a hospital in North Carolina on July 17, 2000. His wife Donna, whom he met when she was a nurse at Lago Hospital, and son William Jr. reside in Phoenix. Bill also had a daughter named Candida. An older brother, Bob (‘48), lives in the San Diego area.



Lobby of the Esso Club, early 1940's.

Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection. Source unknown.

Stanley M. Norcom

He came to Aruba in time to enter the second grade. His older brother Bob was in the class of '52 and his younger brother Warren was with the class of '56.

After graduation he attended Oklahoma State University and received a B.S. in Geology in 1958 and went to work for Sunray D-X Oil Co. in Albuquerque, NM. From 1960 until February '62 Stan was in the Army with the U.S. Corps of Engineers in Vicksburg, MS and then went back to Sunray. He stayed with them until 1969, first in Oklahoma, then in Louisiana and finally in Texas.

After his career at Sunray, he became a consulting geologist in Oklahoma City and later in Edmond. Stan and Donna Jean, an Idaho native, were married in 1979. They have three children, Glenn, Wayne and Valerie. He still does some consulting work in oil and gas exploration. His other interests are in photography, lately digital photo repair, and backpacking in the high country of Colorado.



Plane identified as probably Charlie Drew's, circa 1940

Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection. Source unknown.

Peter Perkins

He was born in Aruba on December 31, 1935 to Frank and Fran Perkins and returned to the states (Elizabeth, New Jersey) in about 1948 while he was still in grade school. The family spent time at Cold Spring, NY where Fran Perkins' father had a nice spacious home in the country with pool and tennis court.

At some point he was a student at Dartmouth and later MIT where Dick Greene ('52) saw him in the late 1950s. He had a younger brother, David ('56), and a sister named Wendy. He was last reported living in Texas.

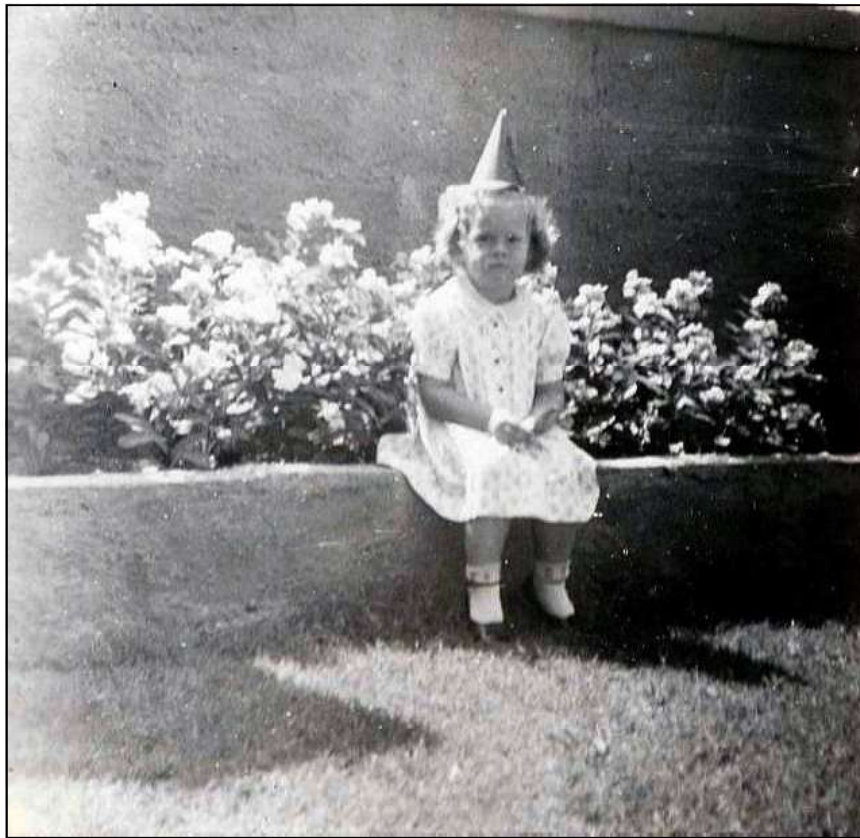


Lago Community Church, 5-corners, and Rodger's Beach view..

Photograph courtesy the Paria Allen Kent collection. Source unknown.

Jennifer Potts

She came to Aruba from England. Her father was in the Marine Department. She was with the class in grade school, recorded as in the fifth grade, but by seventh grade she and her family had returned to England. Jennifer was a cousin of classmate Valerie Chandler.



Joan Haggerty.

Photograph courtesy the James L Lopez family. Source unknown.

Janet (White) Powell

Janet's family came to Aruba in 1931 and she was born there in 1936. Although she graduated with the class of '53, Janet went through school with the class of '54 and was sixth grade valedictorian.

She graduated from Southern Methodist University in Dallas, TX and while there met her husband John. They were married in the Lago Community Church in 1958. They have a daughter whose daughter is their only grandchild and a son who was newly married in 2001.

John was initially a Methodist minister and later became a farmer. He was also a farm and properties manager. They have lived in Princeton, NJ since 1958.

Janet was a library assistant, and then worked with infants and toddlers for years. She moonlighted with Educational Testing Service, writing test items for the College Board and other exams and received an M. S - Ed. degree from Trenton State in the mid-80's. She's also written for children's workbooks and course manuals.

Her parents, Reuben and Betty White, left Lago for Florida in 1962 and both passed away in the 1990s. Janet's brother, Bill ('57), and his wife live in Dallas.