

John A. Carsten

The first biography of an LPA member begins with John Carsten. John was born on September 15, 1918 in Chicago, Illinois. As he says "I came out looking over Lake Michigan." John is 92 years old and has had a full and exciting life.

He graduated from Evendale Grade School in Cincinnati, Ohio in 1931. His elementary class there had a total of eight students. After high school he was employed at Tennessee Corp. as a chemical lab assistant before going to Miami (Ohio) University in 1937. He worked his way through college and graduated in four years with a B.S. degree. At Miami he became a member of Sigma Chi fraternity. He was interviewed in his senior year by IBM and was hired. Being 40th on the interview list, he thinks they hired him only because the interviewers were too tired to remember the previous students.

John had a long and illustrious career spanning 42 years with IBM from 1941 to 1983 with two years absence during World War II. At that time he was a Lt. in the

U.S. Navy as a supply officer on a destroyer. After the Navy, John was in the top 3% in marketing management with IBM and held many positions. His group made the annual "100 per cent club" 21 times.

John married Edith Koch, his hometown sweetheart, on January 25, 1941 and they had a wonderful life until her death 58 years later. There are two sons, Jack (Calif) and Jeff (Charlotte, NC). There are five grandchildren.

A few years after Edey died, John received from Barbara Booth the announcement of her husband's death. Her husband had been a Sigma Chi at Miami and was a good friend of John's. They had all known each other in school. The relationship between Barbara and John blossomed and a short time later they were married in Pinehurst.

John has been in Pinehurst since 1983 and has not been idle! He was one of the founders of the Lake Pinehurst Association in 1985. He has been involved with numerous organizations. Among them are the Moore Regional Hospital, Moore County Volunteer Center, Pinehurst Forum, Congregational Church and Sandhills Men's Fellowship.

We should all be thankful to know John and Barbara and let's enjoy their company for many more years.