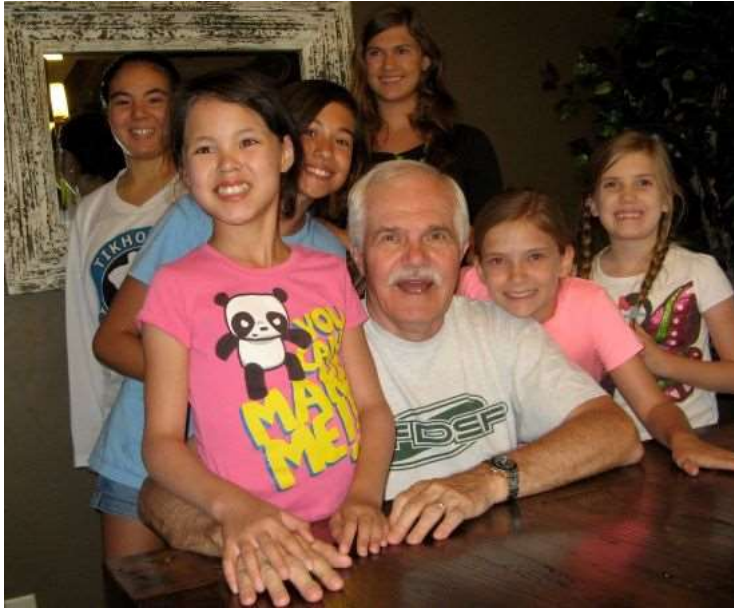


Arlo McDowell



My parents struggled mightily trying to keep my older brother and me out of mischief while they raised us in a tiny rural village in upstate NY. For example, soon after I started kindergarten, the teacher arranged with my mother to send me home after morning classes finished so that I would not disrupt the other kids

during lunch and the afternoon in case I went hyper.

College years were spent at a nearby university (co-founded by an uncle) where I was eventually pronounced an Electrical Engineer.

Jay (officially Janet), from Long Island, and I married after she got her history degree. She taught 9th grade geography for a couple of years and then retired for a while to raise our 3 kiddos whose children appear in the above photo. By the way, one of our sons is slated to become President of the Tucson Chamber of Commerce in Jan 2021. Don't ask me to try to get him to do you any favors, unless you have been nice to me (meaning, given me gifts at the bridge table).

During most of my career, I worked for a contractor doing research for the Department of Defense. Don't ask me what I did or I will report you to Big Brother.

In the summer of 2015, Jay and her friends Margaret Hoeft and Vonnie Erickson coerced me into attending beginning bridge classes taught by Brian and Sari Gersten. Brian worked with Ruth Houkom and others to get the Tucson Charity Bridge Club launched. It is imperative to thank all the hard-working volunteers in all the local clubs. They make bridge happen. And we can be proud of folks like Cindy Shoemaker and Doug Couchman who volunteer a ton of effort to work at the national level.

In the fall of 2015, Jay and I started going to Mike Smith's play and learn. But she was stressed by duplicate bridge (meaning I was a lousy partner). So Mike lined up a bunch of partners for me. I'm proud to say that I have earned MPs with over 100 people. Thank you partners!

A few 10's of MPs into my bridge career, Stephanie Marsden started mentoring me (along with several others including Sherry and Doug Cain, Jane Perry and Jon Schneider, all of whom I partner with regularly). Stephanie absolutely deserves the most credit for my bridge progress.

I would also like to thank P&L directors including Jared Boulds, Barbara Rosenthal, Jud Jones, Ram, Lee Erdman and Doug Couchman. Another key part to my recent learning has been Ram's many excellent presentations and now Doug Couchman's lessons. And they both answer any and all questions! (My patient partner Suzanne Greenwood gives me corrective tutoring on hands that I mess up.)

Lastly, although bridge probably scratches a competitive itch in all of us, I think the most important aspect is the camaraderie of the many cool bridge players we meet. For example, whenever Kathy Jacobs sees me, we say hi and then GRRRRRR! Don't ask me why.