

George R. Boatright


I was born in Greybull, Wyo. on April 22, 1944, to George and Helen Boatright, the last of six children of which four survived to adulthood. I was the surprise child with my closest sibling being seven years my senior. Of these children all are still living.

We moved from Wyoming to Monrovia, California when I was about six. I lived there, with my family, until joining the US Air Force post my high 1962 school graduation. After boot camp and addition training, I ended up in Alaska at Elmendorf AFB in 1963. In 1965 I was transferred to Beale AFB in Northern California. My honorable discharge took place July 5, 1966.

After discharge, I returned to southern California finding work as a computer input/output operator for Bendix Field Corp. working at the Jet Propulsion Lab in Pasadena, where I also took up residence. While there, I worked on three notable projects: Mariner, Lunar Orbiter, and Surveyor. I resigned that position in 1967.

I accepted a position with the Los Angeles County Sheriff's Office as a deputy where I served briefly. As the lure of returning to Alaska set in, I demonstrated a lack of sound judgment and resigned that position before being financially sound enough to travel back to Alaska. I took a couple of jobs working for Jorgensen's Markets and Postal Finance Corp. until the spring of 1968 when we drove back to Anchorage via the (still mostly mud) Alcan Highway.

Upon returning to Anchorage, I worked for Dundurie (SP) Construction Co. and Orval Pickett at his service station in Sand Lake. On January 2, 1969, I started with the Anchorage Police Department as a patrolman, where I remained until retirement in June of 1997.

While serving with the Anchorage Police Dept., I worked as a patrolman in both the Patrol Division and the Traffic Division until promoted to Corporal in 1974; supervising a dispatch shift where we dispatched police, fire, and EMS. In 1976, I transferred back to the Patrol Division. Promotion to Sergeant in 1978 found me supervising Police Community Relations where I served for just under a year until returning to patrol as a Patrol Sergeant. I remained on patrol as Senior Patrol Sergeant until the early 1990's when I transferred to the Detective Division where I subsequently supervised the Property Crimes, Crimes Against Children, and the Metro Drug Enforcement sections until my retirement June of 1997.

After spending a year in Wyoming, I returned to Alaska in 1998, working part time for the Anchorage Youth Court while taking classes at Wayland. In October of 1999 I was asked to help out at the Palmer Police Department as they were recovering from the loss of Officer Roland and the departure of other officers. Over the following two years that relationship evolved into my acceptance of the Chief of Police position from which I, again, retired in May of 2012.

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Education:

I attended Santa Fe Elementary School, Clifton Junior High School, and Monrovia High School in Monrovia, CA, where I graduated in June of 1962. While in the service, I attended classes at Yuba City College and, after being honorably discharged, I took various classes at Pasadena City College. Years later, I attended a few classes at UAA and eventually earned a BSOE degree from Wayland Baptist University.

Aside from my formal education, numerous employment related courses were taken ranging from basic Fortran (computer language) to officer safety and interview and interrogation techniques. Cumulatively, these types of courses account for several hundred hours of training.

Board experiences:

Anchorage Police and Fire Retirement Board
Anchorage Police Department Employees Association Executive Committee
Anchorage Police and Fire Medical Trust
Matanuska Susitna Borough E911 Advisory Board
Matanuska Susitna Borough West Lakes Fire Service Area Board of Supervisors

Political Affiliations:

I am registered to vote as a Republican while tending to identify with those of a more liberal or centrist bent, preferring to remain publically apolitical.

Personal:

I am married; Susie and I have lived at the Lakeview address for about 14 years. We have four grandchildren, three of whom live in Anchorage and one in the Seattle area. We are actively involved in the lives of our Anchorage kids.