

## **MY BIO BY JOHN LARITSON**

John Laritson attended one year at New Mexico State in Las Cruces following graduation in 1957. John was a member of the New Mexico National Guard during high school. After leaving New Mexico State, John chose to continue his education at the National Guard's Radar School in Fort Bliss. After graduation from this school, John enlisted in the United States Army along with his brother, Tom. After basic training, John was sent to Ft. Indian town Gap, outside of Harrisburg, Pennsylvania.

After his discharge from the Army, John spent the summer of 1961 at home in Tucumcari. John made a major decision in fall of 1961 to leave Tucumcari for Milwaukee, WI to attend a technical college specializing in commercial refrigeration installation and repair. During this time, John also worked with Anderson Brothers Refrigeration Service to gain experience in the supermarket industry. John completed his apprenticeship and continued his work with Anderson Brothers until 1968.

In 1967, John was introduced by mutual friends to Betty Melendy (Green Bay, WI). They dated for just six months and were married in December, 1967. Betty was a widow with four children; three daughters and a son. John and Betty have one daughter of their own, born September, 1969.

When John moved to Green Bay, WI he worked for two refrigeration companies before starting his own company, John's Refrigeration, Inc. in 1980. John retired from his work in 1997 and their son, Bill, now continues as owner of the company.

John and Betty together enjoy spending time with their children and eleven grandchildren. They truly enjoy cheering on their grandchildren at their many sporting events and have traveled extensively over the years including trips to Grand Cayman, Switzerland, Thailand, Italy, China, and Australia. They will celebrate their 40<sup>th</sup> wedding anniversary on December 16, 2007.