



JOHN PHIRMAN WAS BORN IN 1938 IN ST. LOUIS, MO. WHEN HE WAS 16, HIS FAMILY MOVED TO PEWAUKEE WISCONSIN WHERE HE COMPLETED HIGH SCHOOL AND LEARNED TO PLAY FAMILY BRIDGE DURING THE LONG WINTERS LIVING ON LAKE PEWAUKEE. CHARLES GOREN WAS THE LEADING INFLUENCE AT THAT TIME, SO GOREN'S METHOD WAS FAVORED BY HIS MOTHER.

AFTER GRADUATING FROM BELOIT COLLEGE, JOHN PLAYED BRIDGE DURING THE LUNCH HOURS AT HIS FIRST JOB AS A SOCIAL WORKER FOR MILWAUKEE COUNTY. THEN HE ENTERED MEDICAL SCHOOL.

AS AN INTERN AT SANTA CLARA HOSPITAL IN SAN JOSE, JOHN ACTUALLY EARNED A .25 MASTER POINT WHILE ON A SKI TRIP TO VAIL WITH A FELLOW INTERN. THEY WERE USING THE "ITALIAN BLUE SYSTEM" *. JOHN CONTINUED PLAYING LOTS OF BRIDGE AFTER ENLISTING IN THE U.S. NAVY RESERVE TO SPEND ONE YEAR ABOARD A SHIP AND ANOTHER AT ALAMEDA NAVAL STATION, NEAR SAN FRANCISCO. WHEN HIS STINT IN THE NAVY WAS OVER, HE BEGAN A PEDIATRIC RESIDENCY AT THE UNIVERSITY OF WASHINGTON. IN 1970 HE JOINED A PEDIATRIC PRACTICE IN SLO AT FRENCH MEDICAL CLINIC.

IN 1972, JOHN MARRIED AND WAS SOON BLESSED WITH THREE BABY BOYS. WANTING MORE TIME WITH HIS GROWING FAMILY, HE DECIDED TO DO AN ANESTHESIOLOGY RESIDENCY AT U.C. SAN DIEGO. UPON HIS RETURN TO SLO IN 1975, HE SERVED AS MEDICAL DIRECTOR OF THE SURGERY CENTER OF SLO FOR OVER 20 YEARS UNTIL HE RETIRED IN 2007.

FOR A FEW YEARS JOHN TRIED RETIREMENT IN FLORIDA WHERE HE RENEWED AND PURSUED HIS INTERESTS IN BRIDGE, TENNIS AND TRAVEL.

BACK IN CALIFORNIA IN 2010 HE NOW RESIDES IN AVILA BEACH WHERE HE PLAYS TENNIS AT THE AVILA BAY CLUB WITH FELLOW ANESTHESIOLOGIST, DON ALDERMAN. THEY HAVE BEEN PARTNERS AND ACTIVE MEMBERS AT THE FIVE CITIES BRIDGE CLUB FOR THE LAST TWO YEARS. JOHN'S CHEERFUL BEDSIDE MANNER HAS CARRIED OVER TO THE BRIDGE TABLE WHERE YOU ARE ALWAYS GREETED WITH A HAPPY SMILE.

JOHN (ALSO KNOWN AS JACK) HAS FOUR GRANDCHILDREN, ALL LIVING IN CALIFORNIA. NONE OF HIS SONS YET PLAY BRIDGE.

***GOOGLE THIS FOR SOME INTERESTING BRIDGE HISTORY**

