



HARLINGEN HIGH SCHOOL REUNION

Name and Address: John Topp	Spouse Name: <u>Darlene</u> # of Children: <u>3</u> # of Grandchildren: _____	Graduation Year: <u>1966</u>
Occupation: Direct Marketing _____	E-Mail: <u>john@toppmarketing.com</u> Phone : <u>956.421.5750</u> Cell Phone: _____	
What's Happened since HHS: "The Good, The Bad, The Ugly"		
Married Darlene Lightsey from LaFeria in 1968; graduated UT-Austin 1970; moved to Dallas - sold high production wood-working machinery, later partnered with Lloyd Ross to open Tuesday Morning, Inc. Have 2 daughters, Jennifer (34), Summer (30), and one son - Richard (28). Returned to Harlingen in 1976 to develop a computer service company with my dad, Lester E. Topp, CPA. In 1983 started Topp Direct Marketing - a direct mail agency and published magazines, maps and directories for cities throughout the RGV. One of the highlights of my life was working with George W. for a year to re-elect and meeting with President Ronald Reagan on my birthday in 1984. Was elected a Bush delegate from Texas and attended the Republican National Convention in 1988. It was a continuous party for 5 days with not much sleep. Have lobbied extensively in the state and national political arena for persons with disabilities (our oldest was born with Down syndrome). I have been very active in the Harlingen Rotary Club serving as President in 1988-89. Our family traveled across the US as our children were growing up. I had a blast with my son wilderness backpacking in Philmont, NM in 1992. We hiked from 6,000 to 13,000 elevation carrying everything we needed for 18 days. Darlene & I have traveled to Switzerland, France and Germany. In 1995, I toured Germany and Switzerland with the First United Methodist Church Choir. We were privileged to stay in people's homes, which gave us an opportunity to really get to know the people better than visiting as a tourist. From 1999-2004, I served on the Board of the Harlingen Country Club, in 2003 serving as President. In July 2008 Darlene and I flew to Alaska and spend 14 days at Denali National Park! In spite of working out 4 or 5 days a week, I am overweight, love to eat and drink good wine, am in good health and love God, my wife of 40 years, my two grandchildren, the United States of America and life in general. Hook 'em Horns! _____		