

BIO FOR DALE DOAN



The Real "Rambo", circa 1976

Clean and virtuous living have brought me to my sixty-eighth summer. I have committed five acts of debauchery, but none serious enough to send me to jail or go on my Permanent Record. And my parents, Curt and Lucy Doan, still think that I'm an angel. (Yes, they both wear rose-colored glasses). I will share just a few of the events and brief memories of the Burges era (1960-'63 and my life since then. I'll be as succinct as my mind and age permits in a résumé style of presentation.

MARRIAGE ONE: First marriage lasted several years longer than Kim Kardashian's and Chris Humphries' wedding. But the payoff for me was the birth of my first son, Michael; I gained custody of Michael at 18 months of age.



Dale & MaryNell

SECOND, AND LAST, MARRIAGE: MaryNell Doan; 35 years and counting. And, if MaryNell behaves, we'll stay married for another 35 years.

CHILDREN: Three stinky, smelly boys. **MICHAEL** hauls mobile homes all over the country. **THOMAS** runs a bar in San Antonio. And, **JASON** is currently an officer in the Navy; the youngest executive officer in his command. He graduated from the Navy's nuclear power program with its MIT-developed curriculum; served in the Navy recruiter program; and is currently pursuing a Master's degree. **SAM**, our 18 year old cat; and **Bruiser**, our 6 pound, 2

year old Chihuahua, who believes that he is a bona fide/fully-certified 800 lb. gorilla.

GRANDCHILDREN: Five stinky, smelly grandsons and one perfect-smelling granddaughter. They are all interesting creatures whom I love and enjoy.



PawPaw with grandson, Caleb

POST-BURGES EDUCATION: Baylor University (BA: English and History); St. Mary's University (MA: Guidance and Counseling); Incarnate Word University (M.Ed.: Education with Special Ed certification); and 24 hours toward a 3rd Master's when Atrial Fibrillation sidelined me. MaryNell obtained her BA in Career and Technology Education, plus 2 Master's Degrees (Special Ed; Educational Administration).

WORK HISTORY: Over ten years as a Commissioned Officer in the US Air Force with one Squadron Commander and two headquarters staff officer positions. Assignments in the Air Force took me to Guam, Illinois, Vietnam, Mississippi and finally San Antonio. Three years in Drug /Alcohol Rehabilitation Programs with 2 years as a Therapist/Program Director at a private psychiatric hospital. (No, I was not a patient; but I wasn't far from it). Nineteen years in health and human services as a Unit Manager/Program Director, including 15 years in private residential programs serving children and adults with multiple handicaps, particularly mental retardation. AND, nine years as a Special Ed teacher working primarily with students (Knuckleheads) with severe emotional disturbance. (I excelled at that calling because my students related to my emotional disturbance. Further, it was one of the most enjoyable work experiences that I have ever had). I enjoyed every job; met some great people; and learned a lot about myself. Burges was the launching point for all of those enduring experiences.

BURGES ERA MEMORIES: Drinking "rum sours" with Tom Gorski at El Submarino in Ciudad Juarez formulating our alcohol-fueled philosophies of life and earning our Zen Master certification. **FAVORITE BURGES TEACHERS:** Mrs. Alice White; Mr. H. Overton Kelso; Coach Jack "Mad Dog" Vantrease; and Beulah Kimes who put up with my BS in Study Hall. I never would have called Coach Vantrease "Mad Dog" to his face because he would have ripped my head off my shoulders and put it in a place in my body that would have required a proctologist for removal. **FAVORITE SINGERS:**

Patsy Cline; Elvis "The Pelvis" Presley; the Everly Brothers; Ray Charles; Don Gibson; and any Doo Wop group, like The Flamingos.

FAVORITE AUTHORS: Thomas Wolfe (Look Homeward Angel; Of Time and the River; The Web and the Rock; and You Can't Go Home Again). Harper Lee (To Kill a Mockingbird). Margaret Mitchell (Gone with the Wind). FAVORITE MOVIES: Lawrence of Arabia; To Kill a Mockingbird; Gone with the Wind; and any movie directed by Stanley Kubrick.

MOST SURREAL MOMENT: Calmly enjoying a drink on the roof of the Continental Hotel in beautiful downtown Saigon with my colleagues; hearing mortar shell explosions and seeing the white phosphorus glow in the distance; and somehow feeling safe.

PONDERING: William Shakespeare's line from Macbeth (Act 5, Scene 5): "It (Life) is a tale told by an idiot, full of sound and fury, signifying nothing". Life has meaning; otherwise, I wasted many random acts of kindness which I wanted in my Permanent Record.

FAVORITE CITIES: Sydney, Australia; Charleston, South Carolina; San Antonio, Texas; Savannah, Georgia; and in April 2014, any city in Southern Italy (Modena, Bologna, Ravenna, Ferrara, and Parma).

FAVORITE SPORTS TEAMS/ATHLETES: The Dallas Cowboys Cheerleaders; the Dallas Cowgirls pro football team; the San Antonio Spurs; "Hammerin'" Hank Aaron, Milwaukee Braves/Atlanta Braves; Roberto Clemente, Pittsburgh Pirates; 1960-'62 Pittsburgh Pirates team.

FAVORITE HUMORIST: Mark Twain. "Clothes make the man. Naked people have little or no influence in society."

RECOGNITION: Burges teachers and coaches truly prepared me well for college and life. Thank you for being such great educators and people! Life is a challenging and enjoyable ride, signifying something