



**August V. Hardt**

### **About August V. Hardt 1940 – 2008**

When I graduated the summer of 1958 we were in the middle of a recession, and jobs were hard to find, so Ron Massey and I went up to Lakeside and worked at the McNary lumber mill. It was hard work. I lifted heavy rough timbers all day, feeding a planing machine in the molding department, but it was a good summer doing all of the things you can imagine boys doing the summer after graduation. Later, I worked two summers for the Arizona Highway Department (now ADOT), and one in the store with Mom and Dad.

### **UNIVERSITY**

College for me was a shock. I had been to Phoenix and Tucson a few times, but being raised in Globe, I was totally unprepared for the size of the University of Arizona. Globe had a total population of maybe 6000, and the University had 8000 students. My first semester went well, because I was scared and worked hard. The second semester I pledged Pi Kappa Alpha fraternity. Eric tried the same thing 31 years later. It didn't work for either of us one-semester pledges. Way too much beer and partying punctuated a lot of the rest of my college career, but I made some good friends, and actually graduated in 5 years. While in college my grades were good, and I graduated "with honors", whatever that meant in 1963.

### **ADULTHOOD**

I went to work for the Arizona Highway Department (later ADOT) immediately after graduating in June of 1963, retired in December of 1996, and stuffed a lot of life into those 33 ½ years. During my career with ADOT I worked all over the state and lived in Holbrook, Globe, Payson, Prescott, Phoenix and Avondale, and dragged the family along with me for most of those years. It was a good career, from Engineer-in-Training to Resident Engineer, District Construction Engineer and District Maintenance Engineer in Globe, Assistant District Engineer in Holbrook and Prescott, District Engineer in Tucson, and finally State Operations Engineer. There were few dull moments, except during bad winters in Showlow, when the construction guys couldn't work in the weather.

During my tenure with the State of Arizona, I had the opportunity to know several dignitaries. Those being Governor Rose Mofford, Janet Napolitano, now Governor of Arizona.



Governor Rose Mofford and I



Governor Janet Napolitano and I



Wedding



Gone Fishing!!!!



35<sup>th</sup> Class Reunion

It has been a good life thus far, and I have been blessed with a wonderfully patient and tolerant wife, partner, and soul mate, two great and accomplished children and their spouses Gina and Vince, and 7 wonderful and beautiful grandchildren, all of which are sources of pride for me. Below are a few family pictures.





Lovely Couple



Dad and I



**Grandpa and Grandbaby**



**Santa Claus and Granddaughters**