

Class of 1961 Coming Home Queen Nominee: **Charlene Pendley Mayer**

I was born in 1943 in the Stamford Hospital due to not having a hospital in Hamlin at the time. Following my graduation from Hamlin I.S.D. in 1961, I attended Hardin-Simmons for one and a half years, then moved my studies across Abilene to McMurry College. I married, and in 1966 experienced the birth of my beautiful daughter. We moved to Arlington in 1968, and I have remained in the DFW metroplex since that time. My husband and I divorced after 5 years of marriage, and I found employment with the Atlantic Richfield Company where I served as a lease analyst for eighteen years. I pursued several different employment opportunities thereafter for a period of five years as a contract lease analyst prior to obtaining my insurance license. I then continued my studies and obtained both my life and health insurance licenses in 1996, and have continued my career in selling insurance.

I remained single for numerous years until I met my husband, Gene Mayer, in 2001 and we married in 2003. We have traveled quite a bit to Europe, Mexico, and South America, but halted our travel abroad when COVID hit. We both enjoyed snow skiing and scuba diving, but no longer pursue those activities due to age and the risks imposed in both sports. We make our home in Little Elm, Texas, and are both semi-retired.