

I am the descendant of several generations of Appalachian coal miners. I was born and raised in Tuscaloosa, Alabama. I recently learned that I have ancestors who fought on both sides of the Civil War. I did both my undergraduate and graduate work at the University of Alabama, receiving my Ph.D. in Mathematics in 1971.

You may have read about Governor George Wallace "standing in the school house door" in an attempt to keep black students out of the University of Alabama. That shameful event occurred in the Summer of 1963, when I was a freshman. Like the fictional Forest Gump, I was there.

The academic job market collapsed a year or two before I graduated. I spent eight years teaching at small colleges before my research efforts attracted some attention in the mathematical community. After one-year positions at Alabama-Birmingham and Sacramento State, I came to San José State in 1981. Except for sabbaticals at the University of Delaware and the University of West Virginia, I was at SJSU until the Summer of 2015.

My research interests lie in real analysis and point-set topology. I am committed to scholarly work and continue to labor on unsolved problems.

Over the years, I have taught a wide variety of courses, both in Mathematics and Computer Science.

I am married and have three daughters. In my spare time I enjoy reading, photography and walks with my dog.

I retired the Summer of 2009 and participated in the FERP program which allowed me to teach every other semester for five years, after which I continued to teach part time.

In the fall of 2015, my wife and I bought a home in Normal, Illinois.