

Mr. J/A's story is a little different than most we have seen in the past. Born April 1, 1927 in the Bronx (a small neighborhood in New York City) the youngest of 4 boys, he had fun growing up with his father and 3 brothers. It was the depression and his father ran a small grocery store, and on Sunday they would walk to the movies for escape and entertainment. It was through this movie viewing, and listening to the music that Mr. J/A discovered his natural ability to play music on the piano. After just a few lessons he was playing at school assemblies at PS 90 and could play most music by ear. This was a wonderful time for Mr. J/A, one that he enjoyed and had his fondest memories.

William Howard Taft High School allowed him to continue with his music and piano work. In his senior year during a Bond Drive for WWII, he was fortunate to accompany a young up and coming singer, Eydie Gorme. He knew that his piano work was steadily improving and he was proud of his natural musical ability. During high school and after, his family tried to arrange blind dates, but Mr. J/A was not too keen on dating. His first encounter with sex occurred on a crowded subway where his hand found the crotch of another man and it was instant orgasm. It was a difficult time being gay in the 1940's, so casual gay sex was found in the darkened theaters along 42nd Street in New York.

After graduation from high school, Mr. J/A enjoyed several opportunities to travel around the country. He went to California, back to New York then to Miami and then back to New York. Along the way he supported himself by taking jobs in various industries, notably banking and retail. It was in 1970 while in the Catskill Mountains that he met a woman and in just six weeks they were married. They worked for the same company and were reasonably happy, but alcohol would eventually come between them. In 1977 they were divorced. Now single again, Mr. J/A worked in the banking industry and in 1988 bought a condo in Fort Lauderdale. In 1994 he met Ruth and they were happily together for the next 15 years. They shared many common interests and it was during this time that Mr. J/A retired. Just three years ago Ruth passed away and Mr. J/A was devastated.

Alone and retired Mr. J/A had a tremendous void to fill in his life. He found and became associated with a gay Synagogue and he found the life that he now enjoys. He associated with SAGE, and became involved with the "Sunrise Serenaders", a choral group in his condominium. He is a Prime Timer and has met a friend through the group. He participates in Bocce Ball and loves to play cards. Content and happy with his current life, can you identify Mr. J/A?

