

Scott Rand

By Ken South

President Eisenhower signed the Federal-Aid Highway Act for the construction of 41,000 miles of interstate highways, Elvis Presley appeared on The Ed Sullivan Show, and the wildly popular film, "The Ten Commandments" premiered. Videotape was first demonstrated at a Chicago convention by Ampex, and "My Fair Lady" opened on Broadway; the year, 1956.

And, on December 14th of that year, Mr. December is born the younger brother to Bob in Worcester, MA. Sadly, Mr. D would lose his dad in 2006. Mr. D attended elementary and junior high in Worcester and then graduated from St. John's HS in 1974.

Mr. D then went on to attend the Massachusetts College of Pharmacy and Worcester State College, majoring in Psychology and Health Counseling and graduated with a BS in 1982. He remained in Worcester for 5 more years working in various fields and moved to the Boston area in 1987. He began his career job for the State of Mass. Correctional system in 1983.

He built a career with the State of Massachusetts Correctional system serving 33 years. He became a corrections case manager and enjoyed several promotions, peaking his career as a Policy Writer and Accreditation Manger at two facilities. He especially enjoyed the service of helping inmates in several different minimum-security prisons and felt it really made a difference for the inmates as they faced parole and discharge. His work environment felt conservative, often homophobic and out of place for a gay man, as he almost never encountered gay colleagues and felt he had to "mind his step" with the inmates and staff, especially in earlier years.

With a full state pension in hand, he retired from the system in 2016 and started a second career, getting his Real Estate license in Massachusetts. Mr. D was quite successful in buying/selling houses in the Boston area, a profession much more conducive for gay men. It was fun and challenged him in a different way.

Mr. D remembers his coming out time and place was very specific; St. Patty's Day, at the 1270 Club in Boston in 1978. --How perfectly Bostonian is that!--, He enjoyed all that the gay community of that 80's era had to offer, bars like Napoleon's, Buddies and Chaps, and resorts like PTown and Ogunquit, ME.

In 1997 he met his first partner John. They owned three houses over the 13 years they were together, but separated in 2010. While living in the Boston area, Mr. D organized a "Meet up" group for gay men called; "The Gay Men's South Shore Potluck". At its height, his Meetup sported over 400 members!

Mr. D met his current partner, Scott, in 2018. He actually first met Scott some twenty years earlier, but their paths just did not cross, until Mr. D began visiting Florida and they had a reunion. Mr. D sold his Boston properties himself and bought a condo in Palm Aire in 2019, where the couple now resides with their sweet cat Maestro.

Mr. D says he does not miss the cold weather, snow and ice of New England one bit. He considers himself a "fitness buff" and enjoys his time at the gym. He also has a real passion for tropical fish. His condo houses a 125-gallon salt water tank which he loves showing. He still does Real Estate Referrals with his active Mass. License and will likely obtain his Florida Real Estate license, where he may start his local Real Estate Referral business.

Mr. D can be found most Monday's at the Matty's social.

