

Wayne Stalcup



Wayne Stalcup was born in Midland, Indiana, on May 26, 1921. Midland is about 30 miles south of Terra Haute, and is located in a coal mining region of the State. His father and grandfather were both coal miners, and it was reasonable to expect that he would follow in their footsteps. However, when Wayne graduated from Midland High School in 1939, he believed his destiny might be teaching school. With that goal in mind he enrolled in the Teachers College at Indiana State University. WWII intervened, and he found himself in the U.S. Army, preparing to go to war.

After a brief sojourn in the Rockies for basic training, Wayne applied for a transfer to the tank corps. He was accepted, and became a 2nd Lieutenant and Tank commander in the 11th Division of General Patton's 3rd Army. At different times during the war he commanded eight to fifteen tanks. Wayne says that although he was not injured in the war, he did have two tanks shot out from under him.

When he returned to Indiana, he completed his degree in education, and again prepared to continue his "interrupted" career in teaching. He even had a position lined up. Again, fate intervened. He had made an application to the FBI Academy and was accepted. So, it was off to Quantico for more training. He subsequently spent time in New York City, Buffalo, and Niagara Falls. During his time with the Bureau, Wayne worked with Shirley Temple's brother, who was

also an FBI agent. He said that he always wanted to meet Shirley, but the timing was never quite right. He requested, and was granted, a return to Indianapolis to deal with family problems. For this he gave J. Edgar Hoover high marks. Wayne says that Hoover always took care of his men, especially, when they needed help.

As an agent in Indianapolis, he was assigned to head the FBI Field Office in Terra Haute, where he investigated human trafficking. His office building housed an insurance company, and he convinced one particular secretary there to work for him. This secretary was to become his future wife. They were married a few happy years before she passed.

In 1953 Wayne began attending night classes at Indiana University School of Law in Indianapolis. He passed the bar, and moved to Brownsburg in the early 1960s, where he practiced law for more than 50 years. His second wife passed about ten years ago, and he is currently living at an assisted living facility, while pondering the next chapter in his life. As with many, he is torn between the ambient “country club” atmosphere of assisted living and returning to his home of many years. Based on his history, Wayne is nearly certain to make the right choice.

Wayne is a sociable person. Most of the day he is out and about, talking with other residents, and behaving as one might expect from one of Patton’s tank commanders.