

BIOGRAPHY OF  
**ROGER R. TRUE**  
*GRAND EXALTED RULER*  
**2002-2003**

*Benevolent and Protective Order of Elks of the U.S.A.*

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Born on March 2, 1948, in Manhattan, Kansas, the middle of three children, Roger R. True spent most of his younger years in the small community of Perry, Kansas about 18 miles east of Topeka. When Roger was 14, his parents, Phil and Shirley True, moved the family to Richland, Washington where Roger resides today.

Roger graduated from Richland High School in June of 1966 and one year later entered the United States Army where he served a tour of duty in Vietnam. Receiving several awards and citations for meritorious service Roger was honorably discharged in 1969 and returned to Richland to marry his high school sweetheart Marilyn.

Roger and Marilyn have two sons, Thomas and Anthony, who both belong to the Order of Elks, and two wonderful grandchildren. During their 32 years of marriage Marilyn has stood by Roger and supported all his efforts, whether professional or personal. As Roger's level of involvement with the Elks has steadily increased, Marilyn has taken on all the challenges and sacrifices that go along with it. Marilyn, an Elk herself, understands the great work that our Order is involved with and all the good things we are accomplishing. Her charm and positive attitude are an inspiration to all that know her.

Roger and Marilyn have worked on fundraising activities for the Catholic Church where they are both members. Roger is a life member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars and also holds membership in the American Legion and Loyal Order of Moose. Roger is also a past member of the National Management Association and is a past president of his homeowners association.

Early on Roger developed a work ethic of loyalty and duty while holding down a 40-hour-a-week job while still in high school. This work ethic has remained with Roger and is still a motivating force in his everyday life. During his 12 years of employment in the family business Roger attended Columbia Basin College in Richland where he majored in Business Administration.

In 1981 Roger decided to pursue a career in Quality Assurance. Over the next three years he

served in management positions at nuclear facilities in Texas and Washington, finally accepting employment with Rockwell International at the Hanford Nuclear Reservation in Richland, Washington. Roger holds a security clearance and is contracted to the Department of Energy through CH2M Hill Hanford Group to perform Quality Assurance oversight on nuclear waste cleanup.

In 1974 Roger joined Richland Elks Lodge No. 2339 being sponsored by his father Phil, a Past Exalted Ruler. Roger immediately became involved with committee activities within the Lodge, was elected as an Officer, and became Exalted Ruler in 1980. After serving as Exalted Ruler, Roger maintained an active roll in his Lodge by serving on the Board of Trustees, seven years as its Chairman. Due to Roger's dedication and participation in his Lodge, the membership unanimously awarded him an honorary life membership.

In 1984 Roger became active in the Washington State Elks Association, serving on committees including Elks National Foundation, Lodge Development, Membership, and Officers Training. In 1991 Roger was elected as vice president of the association and served as its president in 1995-1996. Upon completion of his term as president Roger was elected as Chairman of the Past State Presidents Association and served in an advisory position to the Executive Committee of the Washington State Elks Association.

In 1990 Roger was appointed to the position of District Deputy for the Southeast District in the State of Washington. In 1991 he was appointed as a Special Representative of the Grand Exalted Ruler and served in that position until 1993. He was elected to the Board of Grand Trustees in 1996 and has served as Building Applications West, Secretary, Approving Member, and Vice-Chairman.

Throughout Roger's life his dedication and devotion to the principles of our Order has been unquestioned. His contributions and level of involvement reflect the image of a man who truly cares.