

Edward J. Kaufmann

Edward J. Kaufmann is a 1965 graduate of Herculaneum High School. Known to his family and friends as Eddie Joe, he was a Student Council member, managed the basketball team, and attended Boys' State. He was a truly excellent student and graduated Valedictorian of the 1965 class. With a Curator's Scholarship, he attended the University of Missouri, Columbia, and graduated with honors in 1969, receiving a Bachelor of Science degree in Chemistry. While at Mizzou, he was an outstanding undergraduate in analytical chemistry, a member of Phi Beta Kappa, and published in "The Journal of the American Chemical Society."

Upon graduation, Eddie Joe headed to Fort Leonard Wood for basic training in the U.S. Army. He was honorably discharged in 1971 and enrolled again at Missouri University. He received his Ph.D. in Analytical Chemistry in 1975. During his doctorate work he received a University of Missouri Gregory Fellowship and a Department of Chemistry summer Fellowship.

In 1975, Dr. Kaufmann headed to Iowa State University as a research associate for the U.S. Department of Energy where he led a research group in chemical kinetics. Again, he was published in "The Journal of the American Chemical Society."

In 1977, Dr. Kaufmann went to work for the Clorox Company. He worked there until his retirement in 2004. He retired as vice president of Research and Development-Technology. During his years at Clorox, he was awarded nine U.S. patents and in 2004, received the CEO Award for overall contributions to Clorox R&D, including leading the development of two major blockbuster products and being a role model for personal ownership.

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Coupled with his exceptional professional life, Dr. Kaufmann has devoted time to community service. He has been a member of the Board of Directors of the San Ramon Valley YMCA, taught Sunday school for 17 years, volunteered as a chemistry tutor for community college, and served as docent at the Folsom Zoo and Wildlife Sanctuary – just to cite a few examples of his community involvement. He currently lives in Placerville, California with his wife, Jean.