

Kickoff Open House

August 9, 2012

Tell Us Your Story: Share an Anecdote of Your History in Denton

Sticky notes were typed verbatim-- no comments have been edited.

"I moved to Denton in 2003 to attend UNT. Upon graduation, I move to Lewisville for 2 years and missed Denton so I returned in 2009. I LOVE being a Dentonite. We are a very eclectic city and I think it makes us very unique. There is a pride calling ourselves Dentonites because we a large city that has a small town atmosphere which is very unique. You get the best of both works. Large city amenities and services with the safety and security of a small town. It's awesome."

"I came to Denton for UNT in 2005 and never left after getting a full time job at UNT. My Denton fate was sealed. I stay because it's affordable, fun, and friendly. There's always something to do and get involved with. I can't wait to see where our city goes!"

"Moved to Denton for a man. He asked if I could move here and I said, "Sure, I don't have to brush my hair." Mind you I was a 100k a yr exec at the time. There is a bohemian culture here and high culture too which is fun. I also love it as we age. Being close to 2 major airports allows me to hop on a plane often. <3"

"Moved here when I saw the "former" Longhorns at Razor Ranch and loved the thought of the 'Gateway to the west.' Was so sad when there tore out that major centerpiece to our area. Been here 29 years – finished my B.S. at UNT."

"My wife and I attended UNT in the mid 1990's and then moved around Texas for the next 10 years. When choosing a city to buy a home and schools for children to attend we returned to Denton. We really like the direction Denton has been heading while retaining its identity. I hope it continues to move that way over next 20 years!"

"Moved to Denton are 10 plus years ago and commuted to DFW every day. Had a child and wanted to spend more family time. Loved Denton. Borrowed and quit job, started business in order to be (hopefully) part of growing the thriving, exciting, vibrant, changing community of concerned, energetic cats."

"My story is still being written... but... the first part consists of a UNT degree, another UNT degree, a brief career at TWU, a dynamic church, 3 beautiful children, a fantastic husband, and lots of fun writing it all. {TBD} The end? Hopefully people will always remember me."

"I'm a new comer to the City of Denton. I've found it to be a lot different from my hometown. It doesn't have the openness I remember from Ft. Worth. I'm trying to become more a part of all activities to get more insight."

“Both my children chose Denton’s two excellent universities to attend. They have been very successful. Go to UNT & TWU.”

“Lived in Denton entire life. 42 yrs. Parents born here! Grandparents too! Parents started recycling business 42 years ago. Employ over 35 people in Denton. Hope to stay.”

“Denton is more than you expect! The quality of life here attracts people to come here and be part of the community life. The quality of life is more than the icing on the cake – it forms the decorations that make it stand out!”

“08/09/12 “My Story” New to Denton as a resident. Familiar w/ Denton through the heart of my brother who died May 1st 2012. He loved Denton and UNT. I now know why!”

“During my (almost) decade in Denton, I’ve managed a costume shop, taught photography, worked as a barista, been married, bought a house, made lifelong friends, and raised a family. I could never imagine doing any of those things without the help of the personified version of Denton that is my best friend! Thanks Denton!”

“I have enjoyed living in a house I love with a huge, wild yard at a cheap rental rate. I have been able to befriend my neighbors and integrate into a community. I believed I would never feel like Denton could be my home coming here six years ago as a student, but – whadyaknow!”

“Born & Bred”

“I came here as a student in ’78-’79 and decided to make my life here. I am married and own two small businesses. I do not think I could start them in any other town. I own Cheeps and Critters Pet Thrift Store and Never a Dull Moment tool sharpening.”

“Jan 13, 1969 our family moved to Denton. My husband had a position at the faculty of NTSU. We had 2 daughters that grew up in Denton and we grew to love the “top of the golden triangle.” Denton has the qualities of the Metroplex with the small city feeling. What more could I want! I love this city! It has good high school football (Ryan).”

“I was born and raised in Denton. Went through the public school district. Served on the Sherriff Department and was elected Constable of Precinct 1 for 1 term. I love the history of Denton and watching it grows.”

“Just had lunch at Banter, followed by shopping at La Di Da, SCRAP, and Recycled with my daughter. It was wonderful that all these interesting places are so close to each other, and to my home – we walked here!”

"I came to Denton originally as a student. I had many fun times, especially hearing live music and great band (Fry St. Fair!). Now I am a homeowner and professional with two children of my own. I still enjoy music in Denton – but now it's Twilight Tunes & Jazz Fest!"

"I was a music student at NTSU in the 70's. Left Denton, left the country, moved to a different state...and came back 10 years ago."

"I moved to Denton in 1973 with my parents. They both started small businesses – Jim's Diner and Rose costumes – that flourished. I learned to love the community – the cowboys and hippies – the sports and the arts. After spending 28 years in the Air Force, Denton was where I wanted to live after traveling the world."

"After moving here in 1981 I quickly recognized Denton was perfectly placed to bloom. I seem to have a great environment to raise a family education, culture opportunities at the universities, sporting events, and many Park and Rec facility opportunities. The city has foresight with utilities for growth. We need to keep all these things happening and developing in a positive manner and be prepared to redevelop as things go."

"I told my husband if we ever moved again the only place I would move to is Denton. We move and now live in Denton. The Best Move Ever!"

"Moved here in 1970. 4 children graduated from Denton schools. All received degrees with 3 masters – UNT & TWU. I returned to University and obtained 2 masters degrees. Taught in DISD 20 plus years. Active in College Emeritus. Participate in theatre and arts. Love the town – do NOT want Urban Sprawl."

"I got hooked on Denton when I went to my first Arts and Jazz Festival. That is my favorite event in this wonderful city. You can also see the stars at night! And I love small businesses. Let's keep them alive!"

"I came to Denton as a grad student and then left for several years. I am now back with my family because we liked this community and the people in it."

We moved to Denton in 2001 to be close to our ageing parents (Ft. Worth and Lake Texoma). I moved my business here from Pennsylvania. We both attended UNT in the 1970's. Loved Denton then. Love Denton now. My business is booming. We own our home. Our parents retired in Denton."

"Watched and helped Denton grow from a backwater village to a vibrant city."

"Denton is so unique for it offers something for everyone. Eclectic, everything goes – Students, Professionals, Locals & Out of Towners, Music, Horse Country, Industry, & More."

“College brought me to Denton, but the Big City amenities along with the small town life style is what made me decide to stay. After college I moved away for a brief time, but Denton brought me back to start my business and live with my family.”

“We moved to Denton in 2002 in order to attend & become more active in DBC.”

“We moved here in 1997 to retire because 2 universities are here with their cultural opportunities, there was a good golf club, and Denton was its own city and not a suburb.”

“I came to Denton in 2001, married my sweetheart here, got my degree here, bought my first home here, then gave birth to my first child here. Denton can be, and is, a place to live a whole life. I feel lucky to call Denton home.”

“I have lived here since 1957 and enjoy this city. I love participating in the arts, theater and once I was in a DCT production. I have been on City Council and other boards and love being a part of this growing city.”

I came to Denton to attend UNT, and have stayed because it is where I want to raise my family.”

“Came to Denton for UNT and stayed for the community events. Love Dog Days of Denton, Jazz Fest, 5Ks.”

“Retired here to join family and enjoy the amenities and geography. There has been a family member here since the first census. We are committed – enjoy the arts & the universities.”

“Working for the Midway Mart on Hickory and Carroll for 3 years has been a formative Denton experience for me. Centrally located, my customers included county employees, students, Verizon employees, homeless, musicians/artists, council members, and the Chamber of Commerce president.”

“We moved here from the suburbs by choice to raise our son in an intellectual, liberal, diverse small city.”

“Been in business in Denton for 25 years.”

“I first taught here – beginning at UNT – then moved here to an older home – to preserve some of Denton’s heritage and add to the community.”

“I have lived here now over 20 years. Raised two children and been involved at many levels. I feel community involvement is the key to a great city.”

“I came to Denton to attend UNT. I stayed because I loved the area. I have had two small businesses, and I have many fond memories of Fry St and Fry St. Fair.”

“Came for family and A-Train.”

“Grandkids, Music, Ice Cream. That says it all.”

“I work at UNT. Moved to Texas from Chicago. Love It!”

“Came to Denton to join a band...ended up finding a home! (P.S. and a wife!)”

“Came to work here. Grew to love the town. Seemed to be progressing well. Moved here! Love it!”

“Moved here 30 years ago to go to UNT. Left for 15 years, returned 11 years ago to teach at UNT. Want to see sustainable growth for Denton.”

“Left Rith & Rin to work in a new state with new people & never looked back.”

“Came to Denton when I retired – One of our daughters has moved to Denton 4 years ago. The 2 universities were an attraction for us – as was proximity to Dallas & Ft. Worth.”

“We helped build Eureka Park! It was a super community building project.”

“I moved to Denton to go to UNT and fell in love with the music & independence. It’s unlike anywhere in the DFW area.”

“I have lived here for 16 years and it is easier to get around town now than it used to be!”

“I came here for college and stayed to raise a family.”

“Denton – a great place to live, work, learn and play!”

“We went to UNT, work, having 2 kids and own business in Denton.”

“Moved to Denton 16 years ago for a job with wife and kids. Both kids went through Wilson, Strickland, & Ryan. Commuted to Dallas & Ft. Worth for many years, but now I’m employed in Denton again.”

“Home grown girl – born at Flow Hospital. Live in Austin & East Texas before returning to Denton to raise my 3 girls. We <3 Denton!”

“Moved here from Philadelphia. I have enjoyed the balance between growth & maintaining the quality of life.”

“Came to Denton-UNT; Stayed due to arts and community; love the local businesses and community vibe.”

“My mom and dad met in Denton during WWII – went to movies at Denton Square. Mom went to TWU.”

“Born here. Met my husband at UNT. Have been here since and have raised 3 sons. We have seen it grow and want to preserve Denton.”

“I got a job that brought me to this wonderful jewel of the American south.”

“Three members of my family graduated from UNT.”

“Professional Growth at University & excellent community to raise a family.”

“Born in Denton. UNT Graduate. Raising a family. Restoring a historic home.”