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Since this may be my first response to Alumni News in twenty-five years, I should start with a brief recap. After Yale I spent four years at Harvard in its then new Joint JD/MBA Program. Actually, I backed into the Joint Program after starting in the Business School—feeling that I wasn’t all that “corporate” in either an institutional or entrepreneurial sense. So I found my way to the Law School, hoping to find a greater sense of independence and intellectual stimulation as a “professional.” During those years in Cambridge I met Wendy, who was a senior at Wellesley, on a blind date! We married in 1971 and, bucking all current odds, remain happily together today. Wendy taught music history at Massachusetts Institute of Technology while I finished the trade schools.

Out of a longing for new surroundings and experiences, we New Englanders ventured forth to San Francisco in 1973, where I joined Heller, Ehrman, White & McAuliffe, then a single office firm with forty-five lawyers. The firm is now nearly four hundred lawyers with offices from Anchorage to Los Angeles and, again, against all probabilities, I remain there in my first and only job. I practice business law, with a special focus on financings and real estate.

We have lived in Berkeley since 1975, when the family began to expand to include Jennifer (seventeen), Kirsten (sixteen), and Joanna (twelve). If the twenty-fifth reunion was not enough to remind me of advancing age, Jenny’s departure to Harvard College this fall (1993) is certainly such a reminder. Jenny turned down Yale in favor of that other school for several reasons—but a major one being Cambridge’s greater similarity to Berkeley than New Haven’s. She also sensed a Yale inferiority complex vis-a-vis its northern rival during her New Haven visits—a misperception, I hope!

Outside of a very busy professional and family life, my most significant commun.ty commitment has been to the San Francisco Zoological Society, as a director and pro bono counsel. This past year has been intensive on that front, as the Zoological Society has successfully concluded an agreement with the City to lease and operate the Zoological Gardens, much in the fashion that the San Diego and Bronx Zoos are municipally owned and privately run. The creation of such a public/private partnership, of which this country will be seeing much more in these economic times, has been a fascinating political experience.

I remain a person of varied interests and many hobbies, but, alas, too little talent or time. My most serious endeavor of late has been the piano. Having started at age forty and with no musical instincts, you won’t be hearing me at Carnegie Hall. Actually, in the “dreams and fantasies” category, being a concert pianist ranks way up there for another life.

I hope to make it to New Haven for the reunion next spring. If so, it would be the first school reunion at any level ever attended. Maybe it’s nostalgia as the first-born heads off to college herself.