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**BIOGRAPHICAL OVERVIEW (detailed bio enclosed)**

**Author's Birthplace:** West Point, Mississippi

**Education:**

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- University of Louisville, D.M.D.

**Professional Career:**

- Cosmetic-reconstructive dentist: 1969 - 1998
- Associate Professor of Dentistry (Tenured): 1976-1984, University of Mississippi Medical Center (UMC), Jackson, Ms.
- Faculty Senate, UMC
- Teacher of the Year, UMC School of Dentistry: 1984
- Fellowship International College of Dentists—F.I.C.D.

**Personal Interests and Pursuits:** Self-taught bronze sculptor ([www.giovanisculptures.net](http://www.giovanisculptures.net)), Painting (pastels), Jewelry-making, Astronomy, Creative Writing, Student of Military History and Native American Cultures (particularly Hopi religion and Kachinas), Science of Bullet Ballistics, Motorcycling, Photography, and traveling the Southwestern USA.

**Family:** Mother: Rose Marascalco Portera; three daughters: Kathryn Rose (Katie) Portera, Caroline Lorraine (Carrie) Portera, and Johanna Haley (Anni) Portera.



**J. John Portera**