

Roy Jay Greenfield (2026)



I was born in Manhattan and lived my first two years in an apartment near Zabars. My family then moved to Long Island where I lived until we moved to Hollywood Florida, where I went to high school. In high school I had two teachers for two years, each one for Math and the other for Civics and History, from whom I learned much. I went to college at MIT.

Flew to Boston in Sept. 1954 and arrived just before a hurricane hit. I graduated MIT in 1958. Went to California for two years. Went to Cal. Tech. and UCLA grad schools. Returned to Cambridge for two years and worked for IBM on celestial mechanics with applications to the Apollo Project. Then got a PhD from MIT in 1965. Worked for MIT Lincoln Labs. for 3 years on detection and identification of underground nuclear explosions. I then went to Penn State Univ. where I was a Prof. of Geophysics for 33 years. Worked on lots of things that interested me. These included earthquake studies, electromagnetic exploration, subsurface radar exploration of glaciers, and searching for hidden tunnels under the Korean Demilitarized Zone. For 35 years I worked with the Bureau of Mines and MSHA on methods of finding miners trapped by a disaster.

Got Married to Diane in 1961 and was married for 43 years until her death in 2004. I have three sons who all left home about college time. I lived in a house 1 block from Penn State University until 2020 when I moved to Foxdale independent living in State College. Played tennis (as in high school), skied, and after retirement I did a lot of bike trips around Europe. Being near Penn. State allowed me to see lots of good music and plays over the years. For 15 years I have very much enjoyed the Metropolitan Opera Hi Definition Live Broadcasts.

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