

Net Controller Profile: Ray Thompson, W0IVB

Each month we highlight one of our net controllers. Working through the week we are up to Wednesday mornings. Meet me Ray, W0IVB. This is mostly true that is more true than false, but no one is left alive for fact check; you be the judge.

I was born in a little log cabin in Oildale, California. Well, you all know that story.

I have always been interested in all things electrical, built crystal sets and a Radio Shack two tube AM receiver before was 12. Met my soul mate while working as a floor manager at one of the local roller rinks.

When Judy and I met she was in Jr College I in high school even though she was a year younger you figure that one? We married while in the USAF, wanted the Air Force Academy but settled for one room chapel in Amarillo, Tx. We were blessed with three sons, all exceeded our expectations in spite of, not because of their parents.

Left the USAF and worked for Standard Oil Co of California learning valuable skills; measuring oil and gas which helped me land a job with the USGS minerals division. I got involved in developing and teaching new employees in petroleum measurement.

The Department offered early retirement that I applied for but was denied. Later someone decided the department might be better off without me. Early retirement was mine.

My business partner and I decided to build houses on property we acquired by tax liens in Colorado.

Judy and I built our dream home on one of the properties. She was still working as an RN and commuted from Santa Fe, NM which is how & why we got into Ham radio, no cell service available. Our fondest memories are family field days in Colorado with seven hams in the family, we did quite well. If you want to succeed with FD get your ladies on the air, we had three.

My mother, living in Sedona, became ill and we moved here to help care for her. After she passed, we decided to winter here.

Been an active member in the WVARC for 24 plus years and enjoy all the wild and crazy members. I enjoy running the club nets and believe they should be Fun, Light, Nostalgic with as little dead air as possible.

