Mike Sargent was born in Thermopolis, Wyoming. Both of his parents are from longtime East Texas oil families and knew one another before World War II but his mother was in Wyoming during the war working in a dry cleaning plant that belonged to her sister.

As soon as his father was released from the Marines he headed to Wyoming to marry Mike’s mother. After Mike was born, his parents didn’t waste any time getting back to Texas.

Mike grew up in Irving where he attended Irving High School, graduating in 1965. At Irving high school, he was a standout football player where he was named First Team All-District, First Team All Greater Dallas and was named as an Honorable Mention All-American in the six-state area.

He married his wife, Pat, in high school. Being married made him ineligible to play football his senior year.

He and his wife Pat had one child, Patti. After high school, Kilgore College head coach Boyd Converse offered Mike a scholarship to play for the Rangers. Mike attended KC from 1965-66 and was a key player on KC’s 1966 national championship team.

KC defeated Ferrum, Va., that season 28-7 to win the national championship.

Kilgore outscored its opponents that year 320-65 with three shutouts and six games where the Rangers only allowed one score.

Assistant coaches that year were Solon Holt, Sandy Sands and Bob Peterson.

Mike was named as a First Team All-Conference player both his freshman and sophomore years at KC.

After KC, he signed athletic scholarships to the University of Miami in Coral Gables and also the University of Oklahoma in Norman. After learning that KC Coach Boyd Converse was hired to coach at Wichita State in Wichita Kansas, Mike changed his plans and decided to play for Wichita State along with some other KC players.

After college, he and his wife moved back to Irving and he was hired by Humble Oil & Refining to drive a transport truck in San Antonio. Humble Oil’s name was later changed to Exxon.

Mike spent 36 years working for Exxon in many capacities and was promoted to Terminal Superintendent in Brownsville (where their son, Kyle, was born) and was responsible for terminals in San Antonio and Austin (which also included responsibility for Hearne, Waco and Phoenix).

When the terminal closed in Austin, he traveled around the country completing special projects and finished his career as Terminal Superintendent in San Antonio.

He and his wife stayed in Austin as he commuted back and forth until he retired in 2006. They still live in Austin today. Luckily, all of Mike’s family (including children Kyle and Patti, sisters Kay and Clellene and their families) live close by so they get to spend a lot of time with them and their four grandchildren.