

## BIOGRAPHY

### DOWNING A BOLLS, JR

Downing was born on April 30, 1950 in Biloxi, Mississippi. He is the middle of five children raised in a military family, allowing him to experience much of the world first hand while growing up.

Downing graduated from Burkburnett High School in 1968 and enlisted in the United States Marine Corps immediately after high school. His original military occupation was Communications Center Operator, but volunteered for and was accepted into service as a U.S. Marine Embassy Security Guard, protecting U.S. diplomatic interests in 1970. Downing provided security at U.S. Embassies in Saigon and Guatemala City.

In 1972, he was honorably discharged and used his G.I. Bill benefits to attend college. He went to McMurry College for a year before transferring to Southwest Texas State University where he majored in Journalism and minored in Political Science. Upon graduation from college, he returned to Abilene and worked at KFMN Radio before becoming a news reporter for KRBC Radio in October, 1976. Downing spent a combined 33 years with KRBC Radio and Television and held positions as the station's News Director and Vice President for AM Programming.

In 2006, Downing enrolled in Abilene Christian University's Online Master's Degree program and received his Master Degree in Conflict Resolution two years later. He is a certificated mediator.

In 2010, he sought the office of Taylor County Judge and was elected November. He is currently serving proudly in his third term.

Downing married the former Debbie Elliott in 1978 and the couple has two grown children and two grandchildren.

Downing serves on numerous committees as County Judge to include the Taylor County Juvenile Justice Board, the Abilene/Taylor County Venue Tax Board, Chamber of Commerce Military Affairs Committee, The Child Advocacy Center, the Taylor County Bail Bonds Board and the Metropolitan Planning Organization.

Downing is an active member of Brookhollow Christian Church and serves as an Elder and on the Praise Team. He also is a member of the Abilene Southwest Rotary Club.

His hobbies include historical research, collecting movie soundtrack and playing the guitar.