## Joe Meuwissen Biography

I was born and raised here in the Minneapolis area. I studied at Moorhead State University, graduating with a BS in Biology, BA in Psychology, and Master's degree in School Psychology, with additional post-graduate work at Virginia Tech. I am a Nationally Certified School Psychologist and am a Licensed Independent Clinical Social Worker (MN Lic. 8054)



I am retired from a 39-year career as a school psychologist. I practiced for 8 years in West Virginia and then returned to Minnesota and spent 2 years in Zumbrota at the Wasioja Special Education Cooperative, followed by 6 years in Bloomington as a therapist, educational specialist and Executive Director at Family Focus Day Treatment program, and then finished my career at Jefferson High School and several elementary schools in the Bloomington Public Schools. While in WV, I was President of the School Psychologists Association and I also served on the Executive Board of the Minnesota School Psychologists Association. I was a union leader with the Bloomington Federation of Teachers.

I served 20 years with the Bloomington Fire Department, retiring in 2007 as Deputy Chief of Training. I am active with the Metro Critical Incident Stress Management (CISM) Team since 2003 and have served on the Executive Board for many years as Treasurer. I am also a peer supporter with the MN Firefighter Initiative.

In my spare time I enjoy playing golf, gardening and then preserving the fruits and vegetables for the long winter months. I am also learning about my ancestral roots through my research into genealogy.