

Interesting People I Have Met

This memoir is a continuing story

Ally Wray

On August 10, 2025, on a flight from Austin, Texas to Newark, New Jersey, a young lady took the seat next to me. After the flight departed and reached cruising altitude, I turned toward her and said, “Hi, my name is ‘Ben’.” To my surprise, she immediately shook hands with me as she said, “Glad to meet you. My name is ‘Ally’.” I thought to myself shaking hands while we were seated was a very positive move, and I wanted to know more about her. I started by inquiring about where she was going. She replied, “West Point.” I then asked her if she went to school there, and she said, “Yes, I’m a second year cadet.” She went on to say that she lived in Lago Vista, Texas, and had gone to high school there. I asked her how one applies to be a cadet at West Point. She replied that first requirement was to have good grades. Next, she interviewed through her congressman. I asked about her major, and she replied that it was medicine.

I then told her about myself, saying that I was traveling from Cedar Park Texas to Montclair, New Jersey to visit family, that I had been a pilot and former flight instructor and that I had owned my own airplane. As we talked, I started thinking to myself what it must be like to be in your 20s and just beginning a career. Finally, Ally spoke about her family.

In parting, we exchanged email addresses and took a selfie photo of the two of us. Later, I sent her a copy of the photo by email, and she replied. I will think of her from time to time!



Rebecca Lim

I have used Walmart pharmacies for many years, both in Austin and now in Cedar Park, Texas. This year I became aware of a young lady who was manager the store at Cedar Park. I noticed that she is very attentive to customers and frequently waited on them personally. I introduced myself and learned her name is Rebecca Lim. I soon found that she remembers important details about me and my wife, including our names and medications. Many times she has gone beyond what is expected by expeditiously refilling my prescriptions when I was running low. I was very interested in learning more about her, so I set up an opportunity to speak with her.

Born in Malaysia, Rebecca relocated to the United States where she attended college and pharmacy school at the University of Texas, Arlington. After graduating, her first position was as pharmacist at a Walmart store in Corpus Christi. During the last year, she became manager at the Cedar Park store on Walton Way. In January, Rebecca married a young man, also a pharmacist, and they purchased a new home. When I spoke with her, I asked her who had been an inspiration. She replied, "My Aunt Jacinda! She set up and financed a facility to care for people who needed help. This included hospice care."

In the future I look forward to seeing Rebecca each time I visit the Walmart pharmacy in Cedar Park, Texas.

