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John W. Dean

The Third?

By Maxine Cheshire

Last Friday as John W. Dean III was winding up his Watergate testimony on television, the Los Angeles Times ran a "local girl" story on his wife and mentioned a previous marriage to a stockbroker in that city.

That same day the New Orleans Times Picayune ran a similar "local girl" story on Mrs. Dean and mentioned a previous marriage to a football publicist in that city.

Both marriages, in California and Louisiana, came to light only because someone in each place recognized Mrs. Dean's enigmatic good looks as the features of a former friend.

Biographical data on the 28-year-old Mrs. Dean is not easy to put together, as the news media discovered last week when she began attracting so much attention.

Not since Nina van Pallandt surfaced in the Clifford Irving hoax has a blonde "mystery woman" caused such curiosity among TV watchers.

On the license application for her wedding to Dean in Alexandria, Va., last October, she lists herself as a widow, married only once before.

Her first husband, according to sources in the sports world, was George Owens, a former Southern Methodist University basketball player who is a close friend of Redskins quarterback Billy Kilmer.

Owens worked on the business side of both the Dallas Cowboys and the New Orleans Saints.

Mrs. Dean, who was a stewardess with American Airlines for six months in 1966, apparently met Owens while she was flying out of Dallas. Friends say they married in 1967, separated the following year and divorced in 1969.

Mrs. Dean is from California. Her widowed mother lives in Culver City. She has an unlisted number. A brother, who is a jeweler in San Pedro, refuses to discuss his sister with reporters.

After divorcing Owens she lived in Los Angeles. According to Bill Smyth, a former Saints official who is now with the Indianapolis 500, she roomed for a while with Pat Hornung, the ex-wife of Paul Hornung, and a "Miss Universe" contender.

"I ran into Maureen in 1970 at the Ontario (California) Motor Speedway, and she was with actor Hugh O'Brien," Smyth says. "Pat Hornung was there as 'Miss Ontario'."

At some time during that 1969-70 period, Mrs. Dean was married to Michael Biner, the stockbroker. It lasted only a few months, according to his mother, who lives in Mar Vista, Calif. They split up and he was later killed in a car accident.

Before she was introduced to John Dean in California by a friend, Mrs. Dean had worked as a bank employee and as an insurance broker.

She came to Washington in 1971 and roomed for a while with a young German woman whose father was reportedly a Nazi submarine captain.

She had two jobs with Uncle Sam before her marriage to Dean. She was an assistant to the director of the National Committee on Marijuana and Drug Abuse and later went to the Justice Department's Bureau of Narcotics and Dangerous Drugs.

At the bureau, Mrs. Dean held a "hectic-type pressure" administrative-clerical job from May to July, 1972, according to United Press International.

A personnel officer was quoted as saying that Mrs. Dean was responsible for scheduling training classes, equipment and hotel rooms for newly recruited narcotics agents. She kept things running smoothly for up to 50 to 60 recruits with two or three training schools sometimes in progress at the same time, the officer said.

"She was a very efficient person," he told UPI. "She was very nice, very gracious. She was characterized as very down to earth—not aloof in any way, not snobbish in any way."

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