

Known for Super Shrimp Recipes, This Texas Woman Aced a TV Game Show in 2004

# Who Is a 'Jeopardy!' Champion — and BI Member?

*As told to Angele McQuade by Patricia Baillif of Dallas*

**When Patricia Baillif of the Women's Investing Network offered up her Wowza Shrimp Toast recipe to BetterInvesting members in the club's August 2017 profile, it prompted the largest reader response in my 18 years as a BetterInvesting columnist. Read on for more about Patricia herself — plus a new recipe!**

**M**y husband and I have been married 34 years as of July (no kids) — he jokes we've had 22 years of wedded bliss. We're in two dinner groups together, which gives me a great outlet for my love of cooking.

I've been in Dallas since New Year's Day 2001 — missed both the big ice storm and killer heat wave. I serve as treasurer for a nonprofit camp and retreat center in the Texas Hill Country.

I have three older sisters and when we go on vacation together, sometimes with our husbands, people we encounter think we're strange for enjoying one another's company. Go figure.

My 15 minutes of fame — and also lifelong dream — lasted more like an hour and was one of the most fun things I've ever done in my life. I am a "Jeopardy!" champion (Dec. 24-25, 2004). I won the first day, lost the second, and wasn't correct on either Final Jeopardy! clue. I only regret that my parents, who were huge fans of the show, didn't live to see it.

## Local Celebrity

Another claim to fame: As an undergraduate in New Hampshire, I was introduced to Faye Dunaway backstage at a concert. She laughed and said, "Oh, I've heard of you!" My roommate worked for The J. Geils Band and would tell them funny stories of my madcap college life. Apparently the band's lead singer, Peter Wolf, shared those stories with his then-wife, Faye.

One of my favorite trips was across Canada by train with my husband in 2010, from Toronto to Vancouver and then down to Olympia, Wash. Olympia is the home of my best friend, who also happens to be my husband's ex-wife. I've always wanted to drive across Great Britain, literally from Land's End to John o' Groats, so that's a dream for the future.

## Recipes for Investing and Canapes

How has my portfolio improved since joining BetterInvesting in the mid-1990s? Oh, brother, let me count the ways. The largest improvement has to be moving



**Patricia Baillif of Dallas.**

Patricia says her goal is to grow her portfolio big enough to leave a significant philanthropic bequest to Dallas to help make the city "an even more wonderful place to live." She's become a fan of individual stocks over mutual funds.

**“My roommate worked for The J. Geils Band and would tell them funny stories of my madcap college life.”**

from expensive, proprietary mutual funds to individual stocks with nice dividends.

My dream is to leave behind a portfolio large enough for a meaningful philanthropic contribution that would help make Dallas an even more wonderful place to live.

Speaking of that now famous Wowza Shrimp Toast recipe, I prefer appetizers to be canapes so that people are free to mingle instead of clustering around a dip.

Another of my all-time favorites is Bay Street Shrimp Canapes, adapted from a pasta entree at a long-defunct seafood restaurant called Bay Street. *Note from Angele: Email if you'd like either of Patricia's recipes:*

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Little puff-pastry shells are great for transforming casseroles into minibites. You could spoon tuna fish casserole into a puff-pastry shell and top it with crushed potato chips, for example.

Well, maybe you could; I'm not sure I would. But you get my drift. ■

Angele McQuade is the author of two books, including "Investment Clubs for Dummies." She lives in Richmond, Va., where she also writes novels for children and teens.

If you'd like to be featured in a future profile, please contact Angele through her website:

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