



John Bohlsen '60



After his graduation from Bay Shore High School in 1960, John received BS and MBA degrees from Michigan State University. During that time, he served as a reserve in the United States Navy and was called to active duty during the Viet Nam War where he served as a Lieutenant in California and the Philippines.

In 1969, he and his wife, Linda, returned to Long Island and John proceeded to open his first fast food restaurant, a business that expanded to fifty-two outlets by the time he sold the franchise in 1984. At that time he made the transition from fast food to full service restaurants and is now the owner of several local establishments: Tellers Chophouse, Beachtree Cafe, and H2O Seafood Grill.

In 1986, John joined the Board of Directors of North Fork Bank, which at the time was a small eastern commercial bank with seventeen branches. Elected Vice-Chairman in 1989, he has been instrumental in the growth of North Fork. Today, it is an industry leader committed to the provision of banking products and financial services to in excess of two million personal and commercial customers. With the acquisition of Green Point Savings Bank, North Fork Bankcorporation, Inc., headquartered in Melville, ranks among the top seventeen bank holding companies in the nation with assets in excess of \$52 billion. Its non-bank subsidiary, NFB Private Asset Group, also offers a wide range of products in Brokerage, Trust, and Estate Services as well as Investment Management.

John and Linda reside currently in East Islip. Their two sons live locally and are involved deeply in the family business.