John was born in Emporia, KS in 1932. His 1st job was as a driller with Great Western at age 18. In 1959, he worked on what was the deepest well at that time, in San Joaquin Valley, CA. He has drilled wells from Alaska to Florida & Hawaii to Greenland as well as off-shore on all coasts.

He co-founded FUD MUD in 1972 & formed EJA Tool Company in 1973. He also co-founded Eastern Drill Stem Testing in 1976. John worked as a mud engineer for over 20 years and continues his interest in the industry by working on drilling rigs as a consultant.