



Joy Lease

- 🌸 Family information: **Son, Sean, and daughter, Amy, & 3 grandchildren.**
- 🌸 Employment status—previous and/or current: **retired in 2002 from Arlington ISD as Coordinator of Special Services, Special Education; currently teach ESL in adult education.**
- 🌸 What does your gardening background or experience consist of? **Nothing formal. My mother always had a small vegetable garden and enjoyed the challenge of having the few flowering perennials that would survive the New Mexico climate and soil.**
- 🌸 How did you discover the Tarrant County Master Gardener Association **Through the Neil Sperry Landscape School.**
- 🌸 How many years have you been a Master Gardener? **Since 2003**
- 🌸 What do you like best about being a Master Gardener? **Lifelong friendships with a group of people who have common interests; continuing availability of education in horticulture – I'm always learning more and more about plants and pests.**
- 🌸 What positions, if any, have you held in the Master Gardener Association? **Activities Chair (raffles and field trips).**
- 🌸 On which Master Gardener Projects do you like to work? **Do you have a favorite project and if so, what about it makes it special for you? Hands down, Alice Carlson OLE. A group of us from the same intern class started it from scratch, and it has already become an award winner. We've had brilliant leadership, recruited a few dedicated co-workers and each week continue in our efforts to make a silk purse out of a sow's ear!**
- 🌸 What is your favorite plant? **I always seem to navigate to succulents as accent plants.**
- 🌸 What is your favorite nursery or plant source? **Several. Herrmann's because Barbara is so knowledgeable and helpful and gives us great**

prices; Stuart's in Weatherford and Redenta's in Arlington to find some uncommon plants;

🌸 What has been your most successful plant to grow? **All plants that thrive in sandy soil grow to unexpected proportions in my yard. I've given away as many as I've planted because they grow well beyond what I planned.**

🌸 Are there any plants you will not or can not grow? **As much as I love them, I've been a dismal failure at hens and chicks (echeveria), able to keep them only briefly.**

🌸 What is your biggest gardening mistake? **Way too many to list! I use my yard as a "specimen" garden, buying plants that I know little about "just to see" if I can get them to grow. Professional landscapers would have nightmares at what I've created.**

🌸 What do you enjoy most about gardening? **Same as above!**

🌸 What gardens have you visited (local and/or out-of-town)? Do you have a favorite and why? **The Japanese Gardens in Forth Worth and Portland, Oregon. They are works of art.**

🌸 What other hobbies or interests do you have? (For example—playing cards, fishing, sports, cooking, arts and crafts, etc.) **I love reading (English mysteries are my favorite, although I'll pick up any "Who Done It?"), traveling and exploring (I have to visit my beloved New Mexico mountains a couple of times a year) and, of course, cards and board games are a favorite with my family.**