

John R. "Jack" Porath was born in Flushing, New York, relocated to San Diego 14 May 1955, attended St. Augustine High School for three years and graduated from Mission Bay High School, class of 1961. He enlisted in the U.S. Air Force on 27 June 1961 and retired eff 1 Nov 1982 as a Chief Master Sergeant (E-9). He began his civil service with the Dept. of the Navy in Dec 1983 and retired from the Naval Special Warfare Command on 1 April 2003.

His volunteering is vast, starting with his retirement and continues to this day. At the Mt Soledad Memorial Association for 3 ½ years, Jack established criteria, interviewed people to design approximately 1,500 plaques, managed the office, and served as a Trustee. For 10 years he volunteered for the Retired Senior Patrol (RSVP) Northern Division and retired as the six-year Administrator (Captain) of their RSVP Division. He was elected the 2004-2006 Commander of Veterans of Foreign Wars (VFW) Mission Bay Post 11044 (now closed) and after transfer in 2006, he has been the elected Ship's Captain (Commander) of La Mesa Veterans of Foreign Wars Ship 1774. Starting in 2014, has been since the elected Commander of American Legion La Mesa Post 282 and is the Financial Officer for three other veterans' organizations.

Jack holds two Associate Degrees, a BA in Management from St Leo University and MA from Central Michigan University in Business and Management. He resides in La Jolla and together with his wife Norma, they have three children and six grand-children.