John was born and raised in Union City, NJ and lived there until 1973, when he married the former Mary Garlock of Pennsylvania and they moved to the company's new facility in South Carolina. John and Mary are the parents of two daughters, Nina and Megan.

John started working at The Ducane Company when he was a youngster in grade school in 1960. The Ducane Company was founded by his father and uncles and he was able to walk to school and to The Ducane Company manufacturing operation. John attended Indiana University's School of Business, with additional studies at Fairleigh Dickinson University, always returning to The Ducane Company when not attending school.

John has spent his entire business career with The Ducane Company, working in many different positions within the organization, and is currently president and chief executive officer.

John's business and professional affiliations include: past chairman, Gas Appliance Manufacturers Association; past chairman, Appliance Division, National Propane Gas Association; and past chairman, Grill Division, Barbecue Industry Association. John is listed in the International Who's Who 1994; was given the 1990 Top Management Award by the Columbia Sales & Marketing Executives Association; has been featured in Success, Nations Business, Business Digest and Capital City magazines, as well as a 1988 issue of Small Business Report in the article, Giving Quality the Green Light; and featured in Management, a textbook written by Richard L. Daft of Vanderbilt University.

John's military and community service include: Trainee of the Base Award at Fort Knox, KY while serving in the 50th Armored Division of the New Jersey National Guard; received the 1986 South Carolina Citizen of the Year Award from the South Carolina Law Enforcement Officers Association; member, Governor's South Carolina American Red Cross Disaster Relief Cabinet; selected in 1995 by Secretary of Defense William J. Perry to attend the 58th Joint Civilian Orientation Conference; received a Key to the City of Columbia from Mayor Bob Coby in 1995; was a co-recipient with his wife of the 1990 Richland School District Two's Partners in Education Award; received the 1993-94 Good Apple Award for exemplary service to the educational system from the Greater Columbia Chamber of Commerce's Northeast Area Council; is a Board member of the University of South Carolina Educational Foundation; member of the South Carolina Law Enforcement Accreditation Committee; chairman, University of South Carolina Educational Foundation Investment Policy Committee; is a past member of the Advisory and Planning Committees for the South Carolina State Development Board, and the South Carolina Attorney General's Office.

GILD MEETINGS
John R. Ducate, Jr. — Mayor XXV
Elected at 58th Annual Meeting
Palm Beach, FL

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<tr>
<th>Date</th>
<th>Event</th>
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<tr>
<td>4/95</td>
<td>58th Annual Meeting, Great Council Meeting, and Wassail, The Breakers, Palm Beach, FL</td>
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<tr>
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<td>Great Council Meeting, Cleveland, OH</td>
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Warden Earl Warke, Sr. and PM XXI David Crawford welcome Suppliers to a breakfast during the annual AGA Operating Conference, Westin Hotel, Seattle, WA.

One of the early, original Gild of Ancient Suppliers' lamps, originally presented to Bud Rutherford, president of Wooster Gas Light Co., and president of AGA, in 1966.

Sergeant at Arms Bernie Lee and Senior Warden Buddy Edwards at the AGA Wassail, Atlanta, GA. Buddy looks like he's begging for a hand out.

Wassail dignitaries escorting the guest of honor to the Gild of Ancient Suppliers' Wassail, Cleveland, OH, October '96.

Two happy, smiling Suppliers at the Suppliers breakfast at the Westin Hotel, Seattle, WA.

Mayor Ducate expounding at great length at the AGA Wassail, Cleveland, OH.

Master of Reves Bill Dannhausen and Mayor John Ducate, Jr. at the Wassail. John looks like he just lost his last roasted pig.

Enter the honored guest.

Dick Schulte enjoying himself at the Wassail.
Charlotte Autery, Reuben Autery's better half, checking out the spectacular Wassail food.

AGA Wassail, Atlanta, GA. Group of ladies looking at photos and enjoying the liquid refreshments.

Sergeant at Arms Bernie Lee doing his best to fill the coffers.

A lovely couple, John and Mary.

The Gild of Ancient Suppliers of Gas Appliances, Skills, Gins, Accessories and Substances Invites Ye Burgher and Spouse to Ye Fifty-fourth Wassail To:

Unloose thy mind from the present day, Let it come with us, let it fly away, On wings of laughter, wings of song, Wings that carry each along To a special time, a special place That magically, mystically cares erase: At Ye Olde Capital City Club A Jewel of Atlanta, Georgia From 5:30 to 7:30 P.M. at Ye Joyous Pub Where Ye Wassail Cup behests all views Midst friends, comestibles and brews.

On Sunday October's First Daye

MCMXCV

R.S.V.P.

Capital City Club 7 Harris Street (within walking distance from hotel)
4/25/95 58th Annual Session — Palm Beach, FL — The new slate of officers for the upcoming term were elected. Mayor: John Ducate, Jr.; Senior Warden: Buddy Edwards; Clerk: Jim Donnelly; Keeper of the Treasure: John McNamara. The passing of the Mayor’s ring took place between Steve Burns and John Ducate, Jr., followed by the passing of the capes.

7/19/95 Great Council Meeting — Des Plaines, IL — The meeting was called to order by His Excellency, John Ducate, Jr. He thanked his General Utility, Bernie Lee, for inviting the Gild to IGT to hold the meeting. He recognized his Somewhat Less Excellency, Buddy Edwards, and his Reflected Excellency, Dave Bettinghaus, for their extraordinary efforts in developing such a great turn out to the meeting.

10/1/95 Great Council Meeting — Marriott Marquis, Atlanta, GA — The Gild of Ancient Suppliers held its 54th Wassail at Ye Olde Capitol City Club, Atlanta, GA, in conjunction with the AGA meeting.

1/31/96 Great Council Meeting — San Antonio Hyatt, San Antonio, TX — It was reported that there are currently 476 members. Jim Donnelly has prepared and printed Warden Planners to assist with functions.

4/14/96 Great Council Meeting — Ritz Carlton, Laguna Niguel, CA — Buddy Edwards reported that the expected attendance at the GAMA Wassail will be 81 people, and 40 people at the Annual Session breakfast.

4/16/96 59th Annual Session — Ritz Carlton, Laguna Niguel, CA — Mayor John Ducate, Jr. presented 25 new members since the last Annual Meeting.

7/2/96 Great Council Meeting — Arlington, VA — Membership status was reported by His Somewhat Less Excellency, Buddy Edwards, to be 473 members. Mayor Ducate thanked Reuben Autery for allowing the Great Council to meet at GAMA headquarters and for his hospitality.

10/20/96 Great Council Meeting — Cleveland Stouffer Hotel, Cleveland, OH — The AGA Wassail was also held at the “Windows on the River” in Cleveland, OH.

2/5/97 Great Council Meeting — Point Clear, AL — The membership status was reported to currently be at 436 members.

4/6/97 Great Council Meeting — The Breakers, Palm Beach, FL — A resolution to nominate John Ducate, Jr. as Honorary Sage.

4/8/97 60th Annual Session of Gild — The Breakers, Palm Beach, FL — Sergeant at Arms, Bill Young did his usual good job of collecting fines for the merest infractions. A new slate of officers was nominated and elected. Mayor: G. F. “Buddy” Edwards, Jr.; Senior Warden: Jim Donnelly; Clerk: Ron W. McKee; Keeper of the Treasure: Frank Stanonik. The slate of officers was passed unanimously. A motion was made to elect PM John Ducate, Jr. an Honorary Master Sage and further be exempt from all future fines. The motion was voted on and passed.