Ragan Gennusa knew he wanted to be an artist from a very early age. He loved the outdoors, athletics, and art. He was born in Rosebud, Texas in 1944 and grew up in Port Arthur, Texas.

Ragan was All-State in track and an All-State quarterback for Port Arthur High School. He attended the University of Texas on a football scholarship where he studied art. Ragan credits his training as an athlete for teaching him the value of courage, tenacity, and discipline, and the importance of character in pursuit of life as well as an artistic career. He graduated from U.T. with a Bachelor of Fine Arts degree in 1968.

In 1986, Ragan was honored by the State Legislature’s selecting him as the 1986-87 Texas State Artist. In 2005, he was a recipient of the Stars of Texas Award from the Gillespie County Historical Society, and in 2006 he received the John Ben Sheppard Jr. Award from the Texas Historical Foundation for his outstanding achievement in historic preservation. His paintings hang in private and corporate collections nationwide, including the national office of The Texas Longhorn Breeders Association of America in Ft. Worth. Several of his longhorn paintings are prominently displayed in the University of Texas Alumni Center and he has done longhorn paintings for the University of Texas football program.

Ragan has owned longhorn cattle since 1984 and uses them as models in his paintings. Today, Ragan lives in the hill country outside of Dripping Springs, Texas in a house he built, and paints in a studio filled with a sense of the West.