

Zack Mansdorf



Many of you know of my career (at least the AIHA part) so I will try to give you some details that you may not know. Born and raised (for most of the time) in Akron, Ohio when it was the Rubber Capital of the World. Consequently, as you would suspect, I worked on the “squad” for Goodyear Tire & Rubber Company amongst many other odd jobs to support myself (and later my wife and child) while at the University of Akron. One of those odd jobs was as a Fireman on the B&O railroad (my connection to our railroad guys). Not putting out fires, but up in the engine on the unit coal trains going North to the main line to Chicago from West Virginia and Southern Ohio. I even qualified for passenger service and did some steel mill switching jobs.

Married Marsha (also from Akron) while a Junior at AU. Worked at the Creative Biology Labs (Research Lab) while at AU and later full time after graduation. I worked long enough to realize that I needed to compete with the Ph.D.’s and took a fellowship at the University of Michigan. I received my Masters and stayed there for a Ph.D., but ran out of money and took a direct commission in the Army as an Environmental Science Officer. I was first stationed at Fort Dix, NJ where I

was a First Lieutenant. After enrolling at night at Drexel University in a special program between the business school and the engineering school, I again work on the Ph.D. As luck would have it, I was shipped off to Korea on a hardship tour. I spent a year there while my wife moved close to her sister and parents in Akron. By this time, we had two boys. After my tour in Korea, I decided to leave the Army (after 4 years) and work for Goodyear back in Akron. I actually worked in the Safety Department initially and later for Industrial Hygiene. I was there a couple of years when I was recruited for Midwest Research Institute in Kansas City, MO. I ran a group that did government and private research in EHS. Most notable was my work on a national project on the health, safety and environmental impacts of resource recovery (waste to energy) sponsored by NIOSH. I also did some work on EHS impacts of wastewater sludge to compost. Most importantly, I also picked up a second Masters in safety (GI Bill paid more than working a second job) and finished my Ph.D. in the School of Engineering at the University of Kansas.

After being worn out from working and going to school, I left Kansas to return to Akron (my wife made me an offer I could not refuse) and opened my own consulting firm. This lasted about 14 years when I sold the company (Mansdorf & Associates, Inc.) to Clayton Environmental Consultants (now BV). After fulfilling my year there (same job, just more overhead), I went to work for Liberty Mutual Insurance Company in Boston as the Managing Director for Liberty International Risk Services (all work outside the USA). After they decided on a change in direction, I ended up at Arthur D. Little in Cambridge as a Director for Risk Services in their EHS and Process Safety Group. A few years there and many interesting projects later, I decided to go back on my own and move to the sunshine. While my wife was searching for a house to buy near Boca Raton, I took a consulting project in Paris which later resulted in a job offer. To make a very long story short, I stayed there for about 10 years as a French Director (equivalent USA title, SVP) for EHS for L'Oreal worldwide (\$25 billion in sales and about 70,000 employees in almost every country in the world).

So several things become apparent. I can't hold a job and I have worked in almost every sector. I retired about 6 years ago and have gone back to part-time consulting and for EORM. I also made Lt. Colonel before the Army threw me out (nice title, but no money). Finally and most importantly, I am now playing tennis

a lot which is my passion. I play in two competitive leagues (competitive for older gentlemen) and play with friends most every day. All those that took bets on my marriage crumbling were wrong. Our togetherness has worked out well as long as we don't spend more than a few hours a day together (just kidding Marsha!!).

So now you know all there is to know about me and the witness protection program (yes, I am also known as S.Z., Zack, Hey You and several other names that can't be put in print).