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THE LIFE AND CAREER OF GLEN ADAMS

Glen Adams is a very interesting man who has worked in many different places, and has many interesting stories to tell.

Mr. Adams lives in Republic, Michigan. He was born October 10, 1936. He has lived in Republic, Michigan ever since he was a child. His father was a farmer who also worked in the agriculture department. His parents own a resort in Republic, so his mother stayed at home and cleaned the cabins and cooked for the people. Mr. Adams has one brother who is four years younger than him. Mr. Adams had uncles who worked in the mining industry, "My uncle worked in the Cleveland Cliffs Mine ever since he was fourteen years old." He also had a grandfather who came from Sweden in the late 1800's to work in the underground mines. He had worked in the mines in Sweden. Mr. Adams has worked in the mining industry ever since 1956.

When Mr. Adams first started out mining, he worked at the Republic mine in the crushing operation. "I had a chance to work in a lot of mines" he stated. Mr. Adams had a chance to either be an electrician or work in the mine. He chose to work in the mine because he could not go for the test for the electrician. "I think I would have liked to be an electrician" he stated. Mr. Adams will continue to work in the mines because he wants to have a good retirement. Mr. Adams works at the mine as a mechanic "I worked as a mechanic since about 1966" he stated. Mr. Adams fixes all the large and small trucks at the mine. When I asked

him to describe his job he said "I've probably got the best job at Tilden Mine". Mr. Adams loves to fix things which is probably why he really likes his job. At the time Mr. Adams started to work his job did not require any higher education. Currently a worker might need higher education. The most challenging or difficult part of Mr. Adams's job is when he comes in to work in the morning, and he is not sure what the job is going to be. "It all depends on what broke down over night, it could be an entirely different thing than what you expected to work on" he stated. Even though it may be hard, "That's what keeps the job interesting" he explained. When I asked what he enjoyed most about his job, he said he enjoys working with the people. Mr. Adams really likes the people he works with "I'd be glad to have any one of them work for me" he stated.

I asked him the most dangerous situation he has ever been in. When he first started to work, he drove a water truck in Republic, Michigan. The truck he was driving only had one brake that worked, and the transmission did not work very well. His job was to bring 3000 gallons of water down a very steep hill. At the time he was driving the truck, it was winter and very icy. One day he was following an empty truck and an empty truck was coming up the hill started to slow down. "They stopped to visit in the middle of the road, and there was no place for me to go so I laid on the horn as hard as I could. I skidded right between them, I was going fifteen miles per hour" he stated.

The funniest situation he has ever been in was when he was up on a truck, and he needed a fire extinguisher. He went to get it, and it sprayed all over his face and in his mouth. He will never forget that. Another time was when he and some of the guys

he worked with were fooling around riding a two wheel thing they had made down a hill. His boss came along and had to try it. the boss got on and started to go down the hill, but he hit a little rock and went flying off. He skinned his leg from his knee to his ankle. He did not dare to report it because he was a boss, so he limped around the mine for about a month.

Mr. Adams said that a lot of safety standards have changed "I did a lot of inspections, and I see a big improvement" he explained. He said the training is much better than when he started to work. He had never sat in or driven the truck When he had to drive one midnight shift. The boss just told him what to do, and he did it. "And that was my total training on trucking" He stated. Mr. Adams said every thing is differnt now and you get much more training "It is 200% better than when I started working, and it shows" he said.

I realy enjoyed my interview with Mr. Adams. I think he has a very interesting life, and has chosen a good career.