

Andy Arczynski's
interview with
Mike Roti

ME: When And Where were you born?

MIKE: 1949 Ishpeming

ME: What were your Parents names?

MIKE: Veto Paul Roti And Lois ~~Gene~~ Carlson

ME: What ARE the names of your Brothers and Sisters?

MIKE: Younger sister named Lois Ann ~~Roti~~ Roti.

ME: Were you married? when + where?

MIKE: married in 1978. Pontiac MI.

ME: what is your Spouses name? ~~m. Charlene~~ ~~Elizabeth~~ ~~MARTIN~~

MIKE: Charleen Elizabeth MARTIN

ME: what Did your Parent do for a living? ^{MIKE:} Dad work
in mining industry Sold mining equipment and was a
Consult consultant mother was secretary and teacher.

ME: where did you go to school?

MIKE: Negaunee high School. Eastern michigan university, WAYNE state
university, Bar of noc (community college), Northern michigan university

ME: What special memories do you have of growing up in this area?

MIKE: THE Amount of freedom we had didn't have a lot of problems like in the city Our Parents let us do a lot of things by ourselves like hunting, fishing. MY Buddies Parents let us use the Cabins for the weekend by ourselves.

ME: How old were you when you found your first job and where did you work?

MIKE: 12 or 13 ~~bab~~ Baby sitting, washing windows cutting Grass, 14 I worked at charter incorporated selling mining equipment unloading trucks, where House cleaning. work through High school. Making deliveries to white pine. During Summer doing regular adult splicing conveyor Belts After graduating from High school I worked at the Humbolt Mine in 1967.

ME: What types of duties did you perform on your first job?

MIKE: Job in where was there ^{two of us} was telling that worked full time. The Bulk of my work consisted of Restacking and unloading and loading trucks, cleaning Sweeping and then we did there was a tire Shop connected to the Warehouse and so a lot of the work I did was mounting tires to passenger cars and also mounted of the Road tires for the ~~trucks~~ ^{trucks} out in the pit. When I worked up at the Humbolt Mine I was a labourer in the old pellet plant.

labours at the plant consisted of mostly cleanup,

3.

Shovel work, nose work. IN July 1967 the Detroit
units they Marquette and Ishpeming units of the
National guard got called down to Detroit
they were in camp Grayling at the time
So most of us summer labours got to work
in operating position and I got to work as a
balling attendant which is where they turn the
ore into pellets and a loader attendant which
was down in the bottom of the plant
were pretty much the stuff all of the
K.Y.A.

me: what stands out the most ^{in your mind} about your first?

Mike: the willingness of the older guys to help you if you
were trying to do a good job and kept your mouth
shut they would show you a easier way to do
something. I learned quite a few things from them.
The amount of skill these guys had never ~~could~~ to
amaze me a lot of these people were in 50's and
60's many of them never got a high school education
They were really intelligent people and very often a lot
of people didn't give them the credit for the
abilities they had. That and their ability to
work these old guys just wouldn't stop
they worked hard all their lives and
here I am coming out of high school
as a teenager in a real good shape and these

4.

guys would take and work the pants right off
you and not even think about it

Me: Where you ever in the military? if so please describe your experiences there.

Milce: Yes I was in the Navy Reserve in 1970 Vietnam was just about at its peak. During that time I attended Officer Candidate School in Newport, Rhode Island. That again was real interesting, I enjoyed it at the time I thought about making it a career but decided not to.

Me: How our why did you choose this career?

Milce: I am currently a Registered Nurse and I came to choose this career after being laid off from the mines about four or five times. I have always had an interest for first aid ever since high school when I was in boy scouts we had a SPOV Post that specialized in emergency services. My earlier jobs involved law enforcement. When I was working down in Detroit they didn't have ~~emergency~~ ^{emergency} services the police department handled it so I didn't express to it then. The more I got involved with it the more I

wanted to know about it, when I was first layed off in the mine here in upper michigan I went back and got a emergency medical technician license. with that I worked part time for the Ishpeming fire department with their EMS unit, on wednes and holiday I would fire in for full time people on vacations and I had progressed to with that to the level of a specialist and was finding it interesting and at the time I was layed off in the mine I ~~was~~ was in the unemployment office and I had been contemplating trying to finish up and becoming a paramedic and having discussed it with some of the people Michigan had a surplus of paramedics and the hours weren't that great and the pay wasn't that great and when I was in the unemployment office I happen to see some stuff regarding nursing and I looked at that and that looked like it would do a lot of the same things the paramedic career would offer with better working condition and better opportunities all the way around. Eight years later that is where I am at.

ME: Did this job require any special training? if so, please describe the training.

MIKE: yes, it required, I took mine as an aidian so I had 2 years training before I could be licensed and I received that at Bay de Noc community college. I did that while working

full time at the hospital. now just this past year I've gone back and finished bachelor of science and nursing.

ME: What special equipment or clothing does this job require?

Mike: Well depending on which year working, the unit I work on requires white nursing uniform other areas of the hospital require scrub uniforms. Equipment wise we are getting more and more of ~~the~~ nurse's general stuff is a pair of scissors and a stethoscope, we are getting more involved in protective clothing now because of the problem with aids and some other hepatitis blood born diseases. these general consist of water proof coated gowns, face mask, paper type respirators, and face shields or goggles most often rubber gloves.

ME: Did this job have any special rules or regulations to follow?

Mike: Yeah its got all kinds of them, first you have to be licensed by the state of Michigan and then that allows you to practice as a registered nurse. Then the regulations ~~are~~ we have a book of policies and procedures that's about 4 inches thick that basically outlines what is the accepted way of doing the things we have to do. In addition to that then we have standards that are set up by the national nursing ~~association~~ organizations that tell you what is acceptable and unacceptable practice and what you should be doing with that, so there is a tremendous amount rules and regulations. We also have physician orders then that ~~are~~ specify how they want a particular patient treated and ~~we~~ we have to work within these guidelines.

(7)

ME: What was the most rewarding part of your career?

MIKE: It's the ability to help people. You can go out and build things but when you can help somebody feel good or take care of their problems that's what it is all about for most nurses.

ME: What was the challenging or difficult part of your job?

MIKE: Tremendous amount of stress and having to perform admirably ^{under} ~~with~~ that ~~stress~~ ^{stress} and not let it affect the people around you. be it your co-workers, patients, or your family. being able to put the job aside when you go home so you don't take all the negative and bad things that come with the job home with you. I think the key to that is to know your limitations. There is only so much you can do in eight hours there is only so much you can do to help someone get well or help their suffering excepting the fact that people are going to die that their are people you can't help. If you can learn to exceed that and the other limitations that probably help to deal with those difficult parts.

ME: Did any other family members work for the same company?

MIKE: Yeah, my wife Charlene works for the hospital in a totally different capacity. She works in the lab processing specimens and doing computer work.

ME: Did your job put you in any dangerous situations?

MIKE: Yes it does with nurses there's probably two that are come imdigtled to mind the first would be the confused combat of patient and those sanitizing can present situations

that are dangerous particularly if the patients were confused and they happen to be particularly large or strong. the other dangerous situation that relates to diseases that we can contract in our job we are constantly exposed or the potential to be exposed to diseases that could be life threatening AIDS, hepatitis. All probably the most likely in actuality the hazards in potential for having a problem is far far greater by 4 or 10 times greater with hepatitis than it is with AIDS but when you handle ill people or the blood so far from these people there is always that potential if you make a mistake or if something goes wrong you can be exposed to their disease or illnesses so that is a situation and a lot of people don't realize that,

ME: please describe what your co-workers are like?

Mike: I am very fortunate that I work on the afternoon shift I have a lot of ~~real~~ dedicated mature people there very supportive they work real well together, ~~and they tend to help each other out~~ helping each other and it makes it very nice place to work makes the job much easier than it would be with other circumstances I think makes it a job you like going to because you know the people there are going to help it be no matter how bad the job gets, or how bad the circumstances get the people there will help make it better.

ME: Could you describe some interesting or humorous points that happened during your career?

Mike: I had ~~one~~ ^{one} patient that one for a minute. Three months ago came in from surgery and he had a m. brace, and he has always had problems when he had anesthetic, he gets real real confused and it's kind of interesting cause he is a really likeable fellow and he is really kind of funny but he is just

totally confused and he would have no idea where he was and what he was doing and he knew it and after having ^{with} some night just he ~~continued to do~~ ^{couldn't do} the things he couldn't do he probably aged me 10 years to keep him doing. SO I came back to work the next day and his anesthesia had started to clear up and he was feeling pretty good that day and I went into the room he looked at me and he said I was pretty good last wasn't I not really so well in touch with things well I tell you what you think I was crazy last night wait till you see the guy next door he said you're going to earn your money tonight and the guy next door was even more confused than he was.

ME: At any time did you feel like changing careers? why?

MIKE: Well obviously this is my second career my first one was in law enforcement (for 7 years) and the major reason there was ~~two~~ reasons why I ~~left~~ law enforcement the first being I didn't like living in the metropolitan area I enjoyed the work I found it very challenging and the work itself I could have ~~done~~ done that under different circumstances I would probably still be at it but I didn't like living in the big city and that prompted me to move up here and up here in upper Michigan I followed my law enforcement there was a tremendous amount of local politics and I was running a police department at the time and local politics became very involved and I noted them not at that time that we had their resolutions and issues and the issues couldn't become resolved so rather than ~~had~~ had up as heat that I left that career. the ~~second~~ second career I became involved in kind of returned to what I did when I got out of high school I went back to the mining industry and I worked in that for 5 years off and on with all the layoffs that came in the late 70's. Again it was a job I liked and it wasn't for the layoffs I would still be there. the company was a good employer the wages were good, the ~~work~~ work wasn't tremendously demanding but with 4 layoffs in 2 and half years its not able to cope with the insecurity knowing whether or not I would be working and all the long term aspirations so that's when I went to nursing.

ME: What were your biggest responsibilities on the job?

MIKE: In nursing the level I work at I frequently have occasion to be in charge of the unit and this involves ~~indirectly~~ ^{be} indirectly responsible for everything that goes on in the unit monitoring all the patients and their conditions and what need to be done for them it also involves making sure the staff working with me has all the resources and everything they need to get their work done and making sure the staffing and circumstances for the shift coming on are in order so that they don't run into some problems that could be avoided. Also we work where the people on skpdown are often part of the code 5 response team that means you have to go down when people have respect or cardiac arrests and are directly involved in resuscitation. The nature of our unit is that we monitor and assess people very closely and our people generally tend to be unstable part of the responsibility and expectations of the doctors is that we identify when these people start having their problems and hopefully we can identify these problems before they get to be irreversible or do cause any serious consequences so that a pretty narrow responsibility to the doctors eyes and ears and be able to do the things that need to be done to keep the people from having their problems.

ME: Did you receive any special awards from your employer and were you ^{recognized} ~~recognized~~ in any way for your job performance?

MIKE: Nominated 3 times for employee of the month and also have gotten a couple of letters from supervisors recognizing things like my performance is over and above what it should be.

ME: During your days of employment and beyond what have been your favorite hobbies or leisure activities?

MIKE: In the summer time I like to Bike and wind surf and kitesurfing and gardening during the winter I cross country and stained glass.

ME: If you had to do it all over again, would you choose the same career? ~~I would have chosen nursing earlier~~

MIKE: I would have chosen nursing earlier

ME: In closing, do you have anything else you would like to add?

MIKE: No

ME: THANK YOU